WORLD SOCCER

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The INTERNATIONAL Magazine

KEVIN KEEGAN SV Hamburg

World SOCCER

On strike

The gates of the Santiago Bernebeu Stadium are locked. The National Police stand guard. Footballers in Spain are on strike. For the background and repercussions see page 20.

THE UNHAPPY POLE

IT was ironic that while Osvaldo Ardiles was being touted around for England's Footballer of the Year award Kazimierz Deyna was struggling for recognition and threatening to quit the country (writes DERICK ALLSOP).

Most of the Football League's imports have settled down with some degree of success. But the story for Deyna, most famous of the immigrants, has been rather different. After four months with Manchester City the former Poland captain had played just four full first team games.

Unlike Ardiles, 31-year-old Deyna went to England past his best and joined a club who expected nothing short of success. Ardiles has helped Spurs establish themselves back in the First Division, but Deyna is considered ill-equipped to rescue City from a depressing winter.

City manager Tony Book and coach Malcolm Allison have both publicly expressed their admiration for Deyna's vision and claim he still has a part to play in the club's future.

But City, out of two domestic cup competitions and sliding towards the depths of the First Division, found themselves with a backs-to-the-wall fight. They didn't see that as Deyna's scene.

Deyna, a man with 102 international caps and an enormous reputation, didn't accept the argument and gave himself and City until the end of the season to make the marriage work.

He said: "If I don't play for the first team then I will have to sit down and come to some decision with the management. I don't want to do anything immediately but I can only give it until the end of the season. Then I must make a decision about my career.

"I achieved every success in Poland and came to City hoping to achieve more. But all I am doing is training and sitting on the substitutes' bench and occasionally playing in the reserves.

"I would not go back to Poland at the moment, but before City made their approach for me I had offers from other foreign clubs. Those offers may still be open, and if I did move I would hope to go to a club where the players were on the same wavelength and not playing 'ping pong' football.

"There are not many players in the City side who can read my passes. The problem with the forward players at City is that sometimes when a good pass is made to them they are lost and not sure what to do.

"Either they don't understand or don't want to understand. Their vision is very limited. I think the management at City are making a mistake. I have experience and ability and I have ambition to do well for City. I can only help the team. I can't make it worse."

Book insisted, however: "We can't afford to play him until the time is right. To get the best out of him the team has to be playing at the top of its form.

"He has never indicated to me he was so unhappy, but if it came to a transfer request that would have to be considered. I hope it doesn't come to that, though.

"I don't think we made a mistake signing him. He is a very talented player and can still be a big influence on the team. We all have to be patient and I'm sure it can work out."

City also found themselves involved in a wrangle with Deyna's former club, Legia Warsaw, who claimed the £130,000 transfer deal included a two-year return clause.

City chairman Peter Swales eventually won the support of UEFA and said: "We bought Deyna for good, not just for two years. Legia say their demand was covered in the contract, but it wasn't as far as we are concerned."

The Deyna affair continued, however, with Manchester City seemingly prepared to listen to offers.

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79 TEMPLE CHAMBERS
LONDON EC4 0EX

Telephone: 01-353 5688

Editor: PHILIP RISING
Editor-in-Chief:
PAUL PARISH

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COVER PICTURE
England winger Peter Barnes of Manchester City is featured this month.

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ENGLISH PLAYER TOO EXPENSIVE WORLD STANDA

I HAVE been criticised in some quarters for not getting as many players from England as most other NASL clubs. In fact I have even been misquoted as saying that I don't like English players.

The fact is that I do hunt for talent in England, but for several reasons I do not rely completely on that country.

by HUBERT VOGELSINGER

Coach of the San Diego Sockers, in an interview with Eric Batty

For one thing the talented players that I am looking for are rare in England and with five or six other NASL coaches after them, the prices asked for the few I would like, are outrageous. This is reflected in the English transfer market generally which has gone absolutely crazy in recent months, but it's been creeping up that way for some time now.

By contrast, English players are prepared to come to the U.S.A. for more reasonable salaries than continental European players, but the transfer fees even in Germany are much more realistic.

Despite popular opinion to the contrary, the players I need to be successful in the NASL must be of First Division calibre. And to lay out half a million dollars (£250,000) for a player that is not truly exceptional is out of the question. And nowadays, quite ordinary English players are transferred for fees around that figure, which in my view is just absurd. I have another reason for being particular about signing English players and this is that I want players who can express themselves as individuals and give the game "flair".

But right now the English game seems to be more regimented than ever before, and if the players are faster and stronger in the air than those of other countries they are also generally over-aggressive, often to the point of recklessness.

English soccer seems to me to be so regimented that there is no place for players with flair — like Rodney Marsh and Alan Hudson who could not command a regular first team place and were transferred to American clubs. The English it seems don't want such players because their play is geared to the high-paced game, with the players running like deer for 90 minutes. But if you look closely at the game, it is the ball that flies around at speed and the players do not move that much by comparison.

The basic ingredient of the English game is the hopeful high cross that is supposed to bring the fan to his feet because it is exciting and entertaining. But I find that this style, *played without flair*, is not entertaining at all and is quite the opposite. I find it boring and monotonous because everyone can anticipate what is going to happen next.

As I see it the English game sorely needs the individuals that are currently cast aside — the type of player than can put his foot on the ball; slow the game down; beat a man with ease, and follow that with a telling pass or a decisive shot. This is the kind of player that I need to promote the game in the United States.

Those are the playing characteristics that make a game truly interesting and exciting, because with such players the unexpected is always possible. I was in Portugal, looking for players when Scotland played in Lisbon in what was a key game for both countries in the European Championship. I had already seen Austria v. Portugal in Vienna a little earlier, again looking for players in Austria, and to see the highly-touted Scottish team perform as they did in Portugal was unbelievably disappointing. It looked to me that they went to Lisbon to do just what was necessary to lose.

The strength of the Scottish game is its forthrightness; its directness, and its pace. All these qualities would have been exactly what was needed to beat Portugal at home or away. They could have been worn into the ground. The Portuguese don't have an outstanding team though they do have a few above-average players like Alberto and Humberto, and maybe one really exceptionally fine player in inside-forward Alves.

But the Scots decided to try and play Portuguese-style. Playing a waiting game, they passed the ball meaninglessly about, in order to feel out the opposition — which they should have known all about beforehand.

Clearly the Portuguese were delighted at that because they were confident that they could play better than Scotland at this slow, passing and possession game. Before the Scots knew what had happened they had one in the back of their own net, and with better finishing, the Portuguese could have had two or three goals.

I moved to Scotland right after that match, continuing my search for players and saw the Scottish newspaper reports on the Lisbon game. I really thought that their writers had seen another game. They carried on about how unlucky the Scots were, they played so well, and it was just unfortunate that they lost.

As I saw it, the truth was that the Scots had put on an awful display on every count — individually, collectively and tactically. Without question, the tactical concept with which they went into the game was the prime cause for their defeat!

Although I have criticised English and Scottish football, there are, of course, players who are exceptions to the general rule. But most of them are young, and if some of them show exceptional promise I don't think that the *milieu* will enable them to develop their talent to the full.

In England, the player with some real personality is generally cast as an odd-ball and undesirable, and quite quickly blackballed as a non-conformist because he doesn't fit into the general mould.

But to return to the criticism that I've already mentioned, that I seem to be against engaging English players, I insist that I am not. But I cannot justify to my club, the payment of £200,000 for a player that is not as good as one I can get for half that fee in Germany.

S ARE BY RDS

Hubert Vogelsinger

Every year, recruiting players is becoming more and more of a headache. Or perhaps it would be better to describe it as a toothache because I don't like going to the dentist. And I don't like recruiting players from Europe, but I do it, just as I go to the dentist — because I am afraid of what would happen if I don't.

Each passing year brings me nose to nose with the most painful dilemma facing professional soccer in the United States: whether or not to import foreign players. In a nutshell, should the American game try to put together the best team it can, or should it simply stay American.

But the fact that I've been around Europe again before the 1979 NASL season answers the question — for this year at least.

But recruiting European players is becoming a chore I don't enjoy. The weather is terrible; the rent-a-cars are worse. Telephone operators do not understand me, and I know very well that after seeing some of the other 23 NASL coaches, no European team manager really wants to see me. Add to that the simple fact that with every NASL coach paying a visit to English you will realise what that does to the old law of supply and demand, without having a degree in economics.

But I have to try to put together a good squad and build a good team because there is a sports axiom in the U.S.A. that says the fans will not support a loser.

Yet I often hear this countered with the view that American fans would not be able to recognise the difference between good and mediocre soccer. That is baloney, for the fans in the U.S. recognise sloppy play when they see it, and once they've seen it, they will not pay good money to see it again. But we are making progress in the American game. For example, years ago the NASL required all teams to include two American-born players in their 18-man squad. But this was only a token. More often than not the two Americans would sit like book-ends on the substitutes bench — one on each end. And they seldom got a touch of the ball in a match.

Today the league requirement is six out of 16 players, and more important, two of them MUST be on the field at all times. Appraising the situation realistically and with experience I feel that this season, with a longer schedule and a few injuries, there could be as many as three to five Americans in each team.

But until an all-American side can compete in the NASL and win, I will just have to control my aversions to warm beer and driving on the left. Of course the American players will improve by association — training and playing with Europeans and South Americans. Yet while the American-born player is generally tough, tenacious, aggressive, physical and amenable to coaching, these qualities are primarily defensive. The American players generally lack the craft, creativity and subtlety of the Europeans, particularly in the attacking phase of the game.

It is only by playing with and against players like Franz Beckenbauer and Denis Tueart that the American players can develop. A loan player is just about a thing of the past. An English player spends eight months in England and then over to the States for a five-month programme that is now crammed with 30 to 34 games. How long is he going to last? So you have to buy now, and when you have finally agreed a fee and dug up the money, the player — who is still generally only an average player in international terms — is treated to big receptions in the U.S. and TV interviews and newspaper features build him up to be a super-star. Pretty soon he thinks he is one.

He has talked to other players (they brag about how much they are getting), and suddenly he thinks he is being grossly underpaid, and too much is expected of him. Now he wants to re-negotiate his contract.

He may well have been a Third Division player in England, but though his demands are laughable, he has to be dealt with seriously.

This problem must crop up everywhere but it is more acute in the U.S.A. because everyone assumes that the American clubs are made of money. Elsewhere in the world, players have to be more realistic because with a few exceptions, clubs everywhere are in the red because of falling attendances. In England they still think that the game will draw big crowds automatically, even if the fans have to swim to the ground. By comparison, we in the U.S.A. offer our fans far more in the way of comfort and convenience in our stadiums than they do in England. Unhampered by tradition, I believe we can make the game attractive and entertaining on the field, and we already add flavour with our off-the-field activities. If we can succeed in giving the fans attractive, attacking soccer, then it is just possible that combined with the comfort we offer and the way we sell the game, we may one day serve as an example to other countries.

David Nish — bound for Tulsa Roughnecks

North American Soc

EDMONT IN AS O STOMP LEAGUE

AS the North American Soccer League begins its countdown to kick off for 1979 two things stand out amid the flurry of last minute signings and transfersm The first is that the Oakland Stompers are no more. The fledgling franchise on the shores of San Francisco Bay has been sold for 2.5 million dollars and moved 1800 kilometres to the north to Canada's oil capital, Edmonton. The second is that the NASL Players Association is poised to strike.

Oakland, one of five NASL teams in California, made an encouraging start to their first season attracting 32,104 fans to their home opener, and although attendances dwindled somewhat as the season progressed they still ended up with an average of 11,929, eighth highest in the 24 team league. Therefore their demise while other apparently more shaky franchises have survived comes as a surprise.

The sale of the Oakland franchise and its shift to Edmonton was approved by the board of governors at an eight hour meeting in Dallas on February 22. A number of objections to the move were raised, the most important of these being the fact that Edmonton is so far north that playing outdoors, even in April when the league schedule opens, is extremely risky.

Commonwealth Stadium

However, Edmonton, under its owner Peter Pocklington has been actively pursuing an NASL franchise for some time and with the brand new Commonwealth Stadium to play in it has a major league facility. In addition Milan Mandaric, owner of the Oakland Stompers, is said to have threatened to shut down the Oakland franchise if he was not allowed to sell it to Pocklington, who also owns a professional ice hockey team, the Edmonton Oilers.

Like most Canadian cities as distinct from many in America soccer has a long history in Edmonton although a largely undistinguished one. The Corinthians played there during a tour of Canada in 1911, a Scottish representative team in 1921 and an England team in 1926.

Last season a professional team operated there playing exhibition games with some success, with Bobby Moore being one of the players to wear the colours of the Edmonton Black and Gold.

In approving Edmonton as a new NASL team the league undoubtedly took into consideration the fact that another team in Canada along with Vancouver and Toronto (and the likelihood of Montreal in the near future) would undoubtedly boost the league's image, especially at a time when new ownership has come to the Toronto club.

Within a day of Edmonton receiving the green light from the league they had sold 2,000 season tickets, a most encouraging start. But now the new club (as yet unnamed) is faced with putting a team together in less than a month. In doing so they will have the rights to last year's Oakland players, plus newly signed coach Hans Kraay obtained from AZ Alkmaar of Holland.

Blizzards arrive

Some 2,600 kilometres to the east of Edmonton, Toronto is also faced with the awesome task of putting a team together and attracting customers in a very short time. Having stumbled along for four years under the Metros-Croatia banner with grossly inadequate financing and promotion, the sale of the club to Global Sports Enterprises has now been finalised.

An arm of the Global Television Network, which operates throughout southern Ontario, the new owners have renamed the club the Toronto Blizzard and hired the former Sheffield United player Keith Eddy as coach. Norman Sutherland formerly general manager of the Washington Darts, Miami Toros and Denver Dynamos takes over as GM in Toronto from J. I. Albrecht.

Unfortunately the Blizzard has decided to leave the friendly confines of Varsity Stadium, perhaps North America's finest soccer stadium, and play at the C.N.E. Stadium on the shores of Lake Ontario which is larger, colder and where the surface is that soccer players nightmare, artificial turf.

So in addition to the earlier switch of the Denver franchise to Atlanta, we now have Oakland moving to Edmonton and new ownership in Toronto to give a somewhat different look to the NASL in 1979.

In terms of signings and transfers most teams will start out with rosters very similar to those they ended the 1978 season with, which is in contrast to previous years when wholesale changes were the rule. However, there have been some noteable signings and transfers and some new coaches, in addition to Keith Eddy and Hans Kraay.

The Philadelphia Fury for example will be coached by former Partizan Belgrade player Marko Valok, who was a reserve for

cer League preview

ON MOVE AKLAND OUT OF ACTION

John Ryan — off to Seattle.

Yugoslavia when they played England at Highbury Stadium in 1950. He takes over from Alan Ball who was player coach of the Fury during the latter half of last season. In Minnesota Freddy Goodwin remains as general manager but hands over the coaching reins to Roy McCrohan who has been an assistant coach at several British clubs.

One of the more interesting transfers has sent Seattle goalkeeper Tony Chursky to the California Surf in exchange for midfielder Al Trost, while the clubs making the most changes are the Dallas Tornado and the Tulsa Roughnecks. Tulsa have signed Iraj Danaifar the Iranian World Cup player from Taj along with England international David Nish from Derby and his clubmate Steve Powell. Other signings include Wayne Hughes from West Bromwich Albion, Terry Darracott from Everton, Alan Woodward from Sheffield United and Sammy Chapman from Shrewsbury Town. Alan Hinton is the new coach in Tulsa.

Dallas from a largely British and American line up in previous years have branched out signing Helmut Kremers from Schalke, Alex Stepney from Manchester United, Jaro Pirnus from Salzburg, Brazilians Zequinha from Sao Paulo and Jairo from the Portuguese Club Porto, plus Argentinian Omar Gomez.

The Chicago Sting will have Karl-Heinz Granitza, Arno Steffenhagen and Jorgen Kristensen all returning and have signed goalkeeper Mike Mahoney from Newcastle United. Toronto trying to shake the Croatian image have obtained Colin Franks and Cliff Calvert from Sheffield United, while the San Jose Earthquakes have acquired Willi Cryns from Arminia Bielefeld and Gunter Etterich from Westfalia Herne.

Seattle strengthened

Seattle trying to rebound off a poor season in 1978 have added Alan Hudson from Arsenal, Jimmy Neighbour and John Ryan from Norwich and Frank Barton and John Impey from Bournemouth in addition to signing Derek Smethurst from the San Diego Sockers.

Portland have signed Alan Thompson from Stockport, San Diego Gert Wieczorkowski from Rot-Weiss Essen and Momir Karadzic from the Yugoslavian club Buducnost, Minnesota Bjorn Nordqvist from Goteborg and Los Angeles Thomas Rongen from Amsterdam and Mihalj Keri from Red Star Belgrade. The New York Cosmos who had earlier signed Francisco Marinho have now added Tono Carbogniani an Argentinian midfield player who has recently been playing for Barcelona of Guyaquil, Ecuador.

However, all the planning for the season which is scheduled to open on March 24 may yet come to nothing for there is a strong possibility that the NASL Players Union may go on strike before the season begins. The battle between the union and the club owners has been going on for some time with the members in the United States having to apply to the U.S. Labour Relations Board in order to gain recognition. Having gained recognition through the legal procedure the union now finds that the owners refuse to negotiate a contract.

COLIN JOSE

Norm Sutherland — general manager of the Toronto Blizzards.

Catenaccio man Rocco is dead

THE PAST, the present and the future have all welded together following the death at 66 of Nereo Rocco, who will go down in soccer history as the man who invented catenaccio.

Rocco had been ill with kidney trouble for some time, but his death was nevertheless a shock to *Calcio*. His bluff, prickly yet farsighted personality had appeared an eternal part of the Italian scene.

Born in Trieste in 1912, Rocco made his name as a player just before the last war with Napoli, scoring 70 goals in 272 championship matches, playing once for the full Italian team (in 1934 against Greece) and four times for the B side.

But it was as a coach that he earned his fame. Beginning at Trieste, which remained his home town, in 1947, he passed through Treviso on his way to a lengthy spell with Padova between 1954 and 1961. It was there that he quickly perfected an idea he had first envisaged while still playing — of converting the Swiss Bolt defence into a safety-first system.

With *catenaccio* their shock weapon, Rocco brought Padova up into *Serie A* before moving to Milan in 1961 and beginning the famous partnership with Gianni Rivera which would endure to the end.

The Rocco-Rivera link was compared to father-and-son — but it was more complicated than that facile phrase would have you believe. At first Rocco was the guide and protector of a prodigy. But later, as Rivera grew up and started to think for himself about *Calcio's* problems, so the disagreements began.

Gaining power

Finally the relationship was turned on its end with Rivera, having bought out Milan, gaining the power to offer Rocco back the job as coach — and then take it away and promote him to an unsatisfactorily unspecified role round the boardroom.

But significantly Rivera was among the chief mourners and pall-bearers at a funeral which drew 50,000 people — and that's way beyond many of the crowds his old club have been playing to this season despite their clear lead at the top of *Serie A*.

All Milan's great successes in the past 20 years were Rocco's. It was his tough discipline — which appalled Jimmy Greaves during his brief stay in 1961 — which turned Milan from also-rans into champions in 1962 and European Cup-winners the following year.

Significantly his departure in that summer of 1963 was soon followed by Milan's collapse and it was only after his return from a four-year stint at Torino in 1967 that Milan regained both the championship and the European title — taking the Cup-winners' Cup in 1968 for good measure.

Another Cup-winners' Cup was claimed before Rocco moved on to Fiorentina in 1974. It was a sad farewell to Milan. The new directors felt Rocco was too old, but it was Rocco whose iron hand guided them up from the threat of relegation not two years ago, and it was Rocco who laid the groundwork for the team now on its way back to the championship.

Nereo Rocco . . . this was your life.

ITALY by Keir Radnedge

Italian manager Enzo Bearzot.

BEARZOT WARNING AFTER 3-0 WIN!

PLAYED three, won one, lost two — that was the Italian international score in February.

The defeats were suffered by the under-21 and B teams against the full Russian national team. The under-21s went down 1-0, the B team 3-1. But overshadowing it all was the sole victory — by 3-0 over an out-of-practice Holland.

Manager Enzo Bearzot immediately warned against over-confidence but much of his caution went over the celebrating heads. Despite fresh blood in Inter's Gabriele Oriali in midfield and Milan stopper Fulvio Collovati, Italy's team is still looking long in the tooth.

Dino Zoff, for example, is still No 1 goalkeeper at 37. He was skippering Italy for the 21st time in his 72 internationals against the Dutch and victory provided a second celebration in little more than a week. Zoff had just topped 200 consecutive *Seria A* appearances, and the Juventus goalkeeper now has his sights on Alfredo Foni's record of 229 games.

One other goalkeeper to pass a milestone was Milan's Enrico Albertosi. He topped 500 total appearances in *Seria A*, which leaves him just a season or so from a record. Albertosi is 38 years, five months old, but he's not the oldest goalkeeper in *Seria A*. That distinction belongs to one of his predecessors at Milan, Pier Luigi Pizzaballa. Now with Atalanta, Pizzaballa is two months older than Albertosi.

One man who won't be able to benefit from the longevity apparent in *Calcio*, however, is Moreno Roggi. The 25-year-old right back or sweeper hasn't been able to line up in Fiorentina's league team for two and a half years because of injury. Now he's had to accept the inevitable, and quit.

The last of his seven internationals was the 4-2 win over Rumania in Milan in June 1976.

JUVENTUS president Giampiero Boniperti is in hot water after accusing Italian referees of favouring the champions' league rivals.

It's a rich state of affairs from the club so deeply involved in the Lobo affair of 1973, when attempts were made to persuade a Portuguese referee to side with Juve in their Champions' Cup semi-final against Derby.

Boniperti's unusual outburst followed Juve's 0-0 draw away to surprise team Perugia, who have now been unbeaten in the league for 10 months — at least, they were still unbeaten at the time of writing!

Boniperti said: "A campaign has been built up against us to try to make everyone think we've been protected by officials, referees and at every other level. The referees have over-reacted the other way and some of the decisions against us have been nonsensical.

"That penalty Perugia got was one example."

In that case Gianfranco Menegali was the referee involved, though Juventus escaped unscathed thanks to Dino Zoff's neat save from Gianfranco Casarsa's spot kick.

Boniperti clearly faces disciplinary action from the FIGC, though it won't bring him anything like the three-year ban total landed on Verona's president, Saverio Garonzi. But there was little sympathy from other clubs.

Boniperti will face the music

Sandro Mazzola, Internazionale's counsellor, said: "I don't believe referees would react that way. If they did they'd find it hard to get any more games in *Serie A*."

General opinion was that Boniperti's outburst was the product of sour grapes, with the champions making no impression on Milan's lead at the top of the table. With Gianni Rivera virtually a non-playing captain, Milan nevertheless have 32 points from their 20 games, four clear of Perugia, five ahead of Torino, six front of Inter and seven away from Boniperti's men.

Torino coach Gigi Radice believes his team are still in with an outside chance of the *scudetto*. But despite the outstanding form of 21-year-old Giuseppe Greco — Torino's Causio, born also in Lecce and playing in a similar vacillating right-wing role — they won't get anywhere the way they waste chances. Paolino Pulici squandered two penalties in a fortnight!

At the other end of the table it looks more and more likely that Verona, Bologna and Atalanta will go down. Verona have only eight points, four behind Bologna, who have just changed trainers for the second time this season. Having sacked Bruno Pesaola on Christmas Eve, they have now dismissed one-time Italian right-winger Marino Perani.

Back as caretaker for the *fourth* time is youth team coach Cesarino Cervellati. He immediately reversed Perani's policy of giving the youngsters a chance to save the day and restored disgruntled ex-internationals Mauro Bellugi and Antonio Juliano.

Bellugi was delighted by Perani's departure.

"It's his fault, and his fault alone, that we haven't picked up the points," said the World Cup stopper. In fact it's because of Perani's ideas that we are most of the way into the second division. His team selection was wrong and his tactics were wrong."

Cervellati's arrival brought a 1-1 draw away to Juventus, but that did little to improve Bologna's prospects of survival. They have 12 points, Atlanta 14 and then there's a three-point gap up to Roma, Ascoli and Avellino.

Letters to the Editor

SIR STANLEY REPLIES

Sir,

Like Eric Batty, I read World Soccer regularly and am surprised that he thinks "talking is part of soccer". (World Soccer — March edition.) He is obviously too young to remember when it was not, at least as much as it is today. And one asks, why is it not necessary in rugby and hockey.

He is right when he says I never coached a soccer team (other than my college XI of which I was captain) but I did coach the coaches and organised the first coaching course in England at the Duke of York's Headquarters in Chelsea in 1935, followed by bigger and better ones at Leeds, at the P.T. School, in successive years. These were followed by courses for European coaches in Switzerland, Italy and West Germany. Later, I organised lecture tours and courses in North, Central and South America, Africa and Asia.

When Secretary of the Football Association I also edited the first soccer coaching manuals and arranged for Gaumont British to make coaching films which were sold around the world. When the Central Council of Physical Recreation, of which I was chairman from 1945 to 1972, acquired the National Recreation Centres at Lilleshall, Bisham Abbey and Crystal Palace, courses which I attended and organised were held regularly there for coaches and referees.

I remember when shouting was suggested. One of the instructors at a course at Lilleshall told his student coaches from the Football League clubs to "call for the ball", and when a practical lesson followed, we were shocked to hear for the first time instructions being given by everyone. The seed was sown and quickly spread among the clubs. Then the formation of teams changed from 1-2-3-5 to 1-4-2-4 and 1-4-3-3 and even 1-4-4-2 and wingers were discarded or frequently changed places. This transformation caused players to be "lost" and calling seemed necessary if they were to be located.

Mr Batty criticises a Dutch referee for stopping an English team from shouting. This has also occurred in youth tournaments where referees and officials have objected to English teams shouting during games.

I well remember Tom Finney, when playing for Preston, being told by a coach during a game "Pass Tom!" "Hold it Tom!" "Take 'em on Tom" and when he reached the penalty area "Do it yourself Tom!" In other words "use your initiative Tom", which he so often did. When watching Liverpool against Chelsea last week I noticed that neither Dalglish nor Heighway received any yells from their colleagues telling them what they should do. They all knew where to position themselves to be of benefit to the team.

In the 1950s coaches were forbidden to coach from the touch-lines because games became contests between rival coaches, sometimes positioning themselves on opposite touch-lines. This practice became embarrassing to referees and the view was expressed that coaches should do their instruction before or during the interval and the players left to carry out their orders or vary their tactics, if intelligent enough to do so, according to how the opposition played.

There is an instruction to referees in the Referees' Chart to penalise players who, with an opponent in close proximity, shouts "right" in order to deceive him and gain an advantage. Surely, incessant shouting by numbers of players must deceive their opponents.

I refereed in hundreds of matches in the Isthmian League, the Football League for the Corinthians and in international matches at home and abroad when there was no shouting and I suspect before Mr Batty watched or played. It was never necessary for players to shout to Stanley Matthews, Tom Finney, Ted Drake or Nat Lofthouse and even nowadays shouting is often ineffective. Players with the ball instinctively turn away from a shouter because they know that their opponents will mark him. Would Stapleton of the Arsenal have scored that splendid winning goal in the Cup Tie against Notts Forest if he had yelled to Brady to indicate that he was in an open space, ready to receive the free kick? His opponents, hearing a shout, would have been aware of Stapleton's position and tackled him.

No, Mr Batty, the good, intelligent, skilful players do not have to yell and scream. Those who do, are not doing any good service but merely demonstrating a nervous energy which formerly was suppressed.

My other dislike of modern football is the hugging, kissing and embracing by players but that requires another article.

Yours sincerely,

Stanley Rous

RUDI ON COURSE

THE postponed programme is slowly getting back into action again and four matches at least enabled Roda JC to regain their lead over Ajax.

Roda beat NEC 3-1 and have a two point lead over their nearest rivals who have a match in hand of them.

Roda's game drew 7,000 which was better than the 1-1 draw between NAC and PEC as only 5,000 turned up for this lower-in-the-league encounter.

Twente Enschede with Frans Thijssen departed for Ipswich for £200,000, Utrecht drew 2-2 before 9,000 but the biggest crowd of the day was for the Rotterdam derby between Feyenoord and Sparta with 29,121 in attendance. But this used to attract twice as many fans. Feyenoord won 4-1.

Ajax played a friendly in Wassenaar with amateurs Blauw Zwart and beat them 6-0 with Soren Lerby scoring three times. And even 5,000 appeared for this match.

Holland's 3-0 defeat in Italy was understandable because none of the Anderlecht players were released, there were injuries to other likely starters and no football had been played in Holland for more than a month.

It did provide Rudi Krol (pictured left) with his 64th international cap and well on course to establish a new Dutch record.

In the Second Division much is expected of new Icelander Arni Sveinsson a 19-year-old amateur international striker who made an impressive debut against SC Amersfoort for Excelsior.

Three in line for title

WHILE the replay of the farce enacted earlier between PAOK Salonika and Ethnikos ending in a 1-1 draw, the chief attention has concerned the three contenders for the title: Aris Salonika, Olympiakos and AEK Athens.

In fact it was a 2-1 defeat away to PAOK which cost AEK their lead originally. On the same day Aris won 1-0 away to Serres and Olympiakos by at home by the only goal against Kavala.

AEK were then held scoreless at home by Olympiakos while Aris were taking five without reply from Crete.

All three won after that with Aris beating Larissa 2-1, Olympiakos scoring twice without reply from Aigaleo and AEK winning 3-2 away to Iraklis.

Back to form

However, AEK came back to something like scoring form in their 4-0 win over Panionios and Olympiakos lost 2-0 away to PAOK. Aris managed a 2-2 draw at Kavala and lead AEK by a point, with Olympiakos another point away from them.

These three also dominated the Cup results recently with Olympiakos drawing 2-2 with PAOK and then getting the nod 6-5 on penalty kicks and similarly Aris and Panathinaikos fighting it out 0-0 and Aris emerging 5-4 on penalties.

AEK had the easiest of the cup matches in this respect beating Second Division Acharnaikos by four clear goals.

Dynamo charging!

THE winter break did nothing to impair the performances of Dynamo Berlin who took their unbeaten run this season to 16 matches, after beating local rivals Union by four clear goals.

Dynamo Dresden are clinging on however and are six points behind having lost only once this season to Berlin of course.

5-5 draw

Though East German football has not been noted for its freedom of scoring until recent years, even these days of goals galore there, have not seen a 5-5 draw as witnessed when Lokomotive Leipzig met Hansa Rostock recently.

Against the 42 goals scored by Dynamo Berlin, it should be pointed out that Rot-Weiss Erfurt, Union, Sachsenring, Karl-Marx-Stadt and Chemie Bohlen are barely managing one goal per game on average.

'Happy' defeat

A 3-0 defeat in Paris for a European Championship match with France is not poor by Luxembourg's modest standards, particularly as they had a largely inexperienced side on duty.

The eleven who took the field could only muster some 120 international appearances between them and of this total goalkeeper Jeannot Moes had 23 caps and midfield player Paul Philipp 41.

Experienced

Philipp is now the skipper and at 28 is highly experienced and a professional who has spent most of his career abroad. Starting with Avenir Beggin in Luxembourg he first went to Belgium to play for Union St Gilloise and then had a stint with Standard Liege. Now he is back with Royal Union as they are now called and in the Second Division.

Moes is 30 and plays for Philipp's old club Avenir Beggen, who are not doing much in the championship this season dominated by Progres Niedercorn, Union and Red Boys.

Opponents

Progres did well to draw 2-2 away to Red Boys and have a two point lead over these opponents and Union who were winning 5-1 at Diekirch against Young Boys.

Red Boys also did well enough in the quarter-finals of the Cup taking eight goals off Hobscheid a lower division team, when football resumed after more than a month of snow and rain.

Beveren march on

BEVEREN stretched their lead to six points after beating Antwerp 3-1 while Anderlecht were losing by the only goal to their old rivals Standard Liege.

All three goals were scored for Beveren by Erwin Albert who hoisted his total this season to 19, just two behind Ruud Geels of Anderlecht.

Anderlecht continue to be incredibly inconsistent and never more so than in a recent League game with bottom of the table Courtrai.

At half-time Courtrai were leading their hosts by two clear goals, but after the break Anderlecht managed to pull themselves together and scored seven without reply.

RWD Molenbeek lost 1-0 at Antwerp after a run of 13 matches without defeat and FC Bruges are picking up points again and are level with Lokeren just a point behind Anderlecht.

Bruges also put out Beveren in the Belgian Cup, though their victory was aided by the fact that Jean-Marie Pfaff the Beveren goalkeeper was absent and his stand-in was badly at fault with the winning goal.

Houtman double

Bruges' two goals came from their recently acquired Dutchman Peter Houtman.

Other qualifiers for the semi-finals are Anderlecht who beat second Division Ostend 5-0 with Bobby Rensenbrink (pictured left) getting a hat-trick, Waterschel and Beerschot.

MULLER – STRIKERS NEW STRIKER

GERD MULLER, seven times West Germany's leading marksmen and scorer of 68 goals in 62 internationals, has signed for Fort Lauderdale Strikers in the North American Soccer League.

Muller's defection to the United States became virtually a foregone conclusion after he walked out on Bayern Munich following a bust-up with coach Pal Csernai.

Muller had spent 15 years with Bayern, but became increasingly isolated from his team-mates over the past 12 months with his support for unpopular Hungarian coach Gyula Lorant.

When Lorant was dismissed during the winter Muller's days were clearly numbered because of his bad relationship with midfielder Paul Breitner, who has virtually taken over the team in the manner of Franz Beckenbauer of old.

Beau Rogers, Strikers' general manager, flew to Munich for talks with Muller, and was quickly followed by Mrs Elizabeth Robbie, managing general partner of the Fort Lauderdale set-up. Negotiations were concluded and a contract signed.

Muller was the second World Cup man signed inside a week by Fort Lauderdale, who had earlier come to terms with Alianza of Lima for Teofilo Cubillas, the turning hub of Peru's 1978 effort in Argentina.

Muller, who was West Germany's player of the year in 1972 and won the European award in 1970, was expected to make his debut for Fort Lauderdale on March 17 in an exhibition match against Bjorn Nordqvist's Minnesota Kicks — a repeat of their 1974 World Cup duel.

WAC stay on target

AUSTRIA/WAC having achieved a crucial 2-1 win over their nearest rivals Rapid Vienna, then suffered their fifth defeat in the League this season against third place Voest Linz by the only goal.

Away to Rapid they drew only 13,000 for one of the top clashes of the season but Austria/WAC's subsequent defeat has not cost the champions anything serious because Rapid could only draw 2-2 away to newly promoted Austria Salzburg who are fourth.

Five points

Austria/WAC lead by five points but there are still 16 matches to go.

Top scorer for the leaders is Thomas Parits the veteran ex-Austrian international who has managed 16 of the side's 47 League goals and though a long way from pushing Hans Krankl's Austrian records, is enjoying something of an Indian Summer in the scoring stakes.

Austria's Hans Krankl. He may be playing in Spain for Barcelona but his Austrian scoring records remain intact at home.

DON'T KNOCK THE REF

Speaking Personally by Leslie Vernon

Try again John

IN the wake of the Phil Parkes transfer (£560,000 for a goalkeeper!), John Bond, the Norwich manager is demanding a revolt. According to a "Sunday People" report, he said that the game is going barmy. He has called every other manager to a summit meeting, and claims that there has been a fantastic response. Bond says: "I'd like to scrap the transfer system, and if we can get the majority of managers speaking with one voice, we can stop the game going completely mad."

Bravo! But what are the chances of such a move succeeding? I would say, nil!

Firstly, the transfer system keeps the small clubs in existence, and you cannot call a halt overnight. Secondly, as Lawrie McMenemy has pointed out, the really "important" managers would not turn up at such a meeting, because they are in charge of the rich clubs, and consequently able to afford the rocketing prices.

There is room for a really strong, efficient organisation run by football managers. If they could find a common voice, they could do an excellent job for the game. But their decisions, whether it concerns the transfer market or the number of teams in the League or foreign imports or any other important aspect, would only carry any weight at all if they could convince their own chairmen first!

Individually, they are — well, some of them — charming people, but collectively, they are a reactionary, selfish bunch. Sorry, John Bond, once again you are tilting at windmills and knocking your head against a brickwall. An improbable dual activity, but carry on the good work.

Ray Toseland — one of England's top referees.

FOLLOWING some obscure Chinese custom, 1978 was declared the 'Year of the Referee'. This lofty title apparently meant a sympathetic focus on officials, a wide discussion on their problems, and an overall effort to ease their thankless task.

None of these noble aims seemed to be in operation during that calendar year, on the contrary, referee-baiting was a favourite pastime during the World Cup. I, myself, indulged in this self righteous criticism, becasue I felt that some referees during the Mundial allowed their judgement to be influenced by outside circumstances.

But now our own domestic football is in danger of devoting not so much a 'Year' but a season to referees. It could be called the 'Epoch of the Big Stick' since these unfortunate officials are mercilessly hounded by managers and Press alike.

I have made it quite clear in this column several times that I do not consider the referees sacrosanct, but we do need some 'untouchable' principles to preserve the public's faith in the game itself. What separates criticism levelled at certain refs. on international level (see World Cup) and on purely national level is — integrity! Once we are convinced that our own League officials are honest men, there is no real need to scrutinize their every decision with hair-splitting diligence.

Yet, look at the Press output of just one week at the end of February. Jimmy Bloomfield, the Orient manager, was quoted in the Sunday Express after the Cardiff game: "It was a series of bad decisions which cost us the game". Denis Compton wrote in the same paper: "Two players were booked in the first 10 minutes. Andy Rollings for a foul on Chris Guthrie — a harsh decision, and Fulham's John Margerrison for dissent. Yet Les Strong went unpunished for a vicious tackle which resulted in Peter Sayer being carried off on a stretcher."

Foreigners also got their due reward — an example from Jeff Powell, reporting the UEFA Youth Cup tie between Italy and England. "Not even the nervous confusion of West German referee Volker Roth could detract from the character and quality of England's remodelled youth team."

After-match comment from manager Johnny Cartwright in Rome: "We were concerned about the referee. There was no end of free-kicks, but he let many of the worst tackles go."

Condemn

Indeed, this is typical of the tenor of most of todays' post-match Press conferences. Managers uniformly condemn referees for being too harsh or for not being tough enough, but in most cases for inconsistency. "My boy was booked, but the other guy got away with a much more horrendous crime," is the fashionable battle cry.

Even those wise managers who habitually state that they never discuss referees, do so with an air of forced restraint, as though behind the sealed lips, there are a thousand accusations just waiting to burst forth. Our TV commentators are also ever ready with their constant condemnations. "He is not using the advantage rules", says Brian Moore, himself often failing to comprehend the basic meaning of "advantage" in the football sense. "That was a foul, now let's see what the referee thinks?" asks John Motson. What nonsense! If the ref "thought" that it was a foul, then it is a foul, but if the ref didn't blow, it is completely irrelevant what Mr. Motson thought! In other words, a penalty, a free-kick, an offside decision or a goal is a penalty, a free-kick, etc., precisely and solely because it is awarded by the only arbiter of such matters — the referee!

Discussions, debates, arguments will always surround every aspect of the game, including the refereeing. That is healthy and understandable. But there is no need to create an atmosphere where the ref is automatically the fall-guy, who doesn't have a clue about what's going on in front of his very eyes.

Riddled

I could tolerate — perhaps — the amount of criticism heaped on the refs if the game itself was as pure as driven snow. But that's far from the truth, because our football is riddled with petty fouling, consistent dissent and unseemly gamesmanship. Footballers who habitually play the man and not the ball, are annoyed when the referee awards a free-kick against them. Managers who piously preach the virtues of sportsmanship while turning a blind eye to their own players' misbehaviour, accuse the official with inconsistency. The most common criticism levelled at the officials is concerned with bookings.

It is said time and again (see Denis Compton above) that players are cautioned for lesser offences while others get away with more serious ones. But this is similar to the parrot-cry of the motorist with a parking ticket on his window! He knows that he is guilty, he is only annoyed at being caught.

Necessary

I admit that there are inconsistencies in refereeing, but one has to be on the pitch to judge "the temperature" of a match. It is impossible to formulate a "menu" in advance, prescribing a price for each offence. A game might reach a stage when the referee feels that a caution is necessary to cool the situation. In that event, the 'next player' who commits a deliberate foul might go in the book — he might be unlucky, but certainly not innocent. An isolated clash in an otherwise incident-free game might go unpunished. If this is 'inconsistency', it simply cannot be helped. All I am asking for is more respect, more understanding and less venom. Without noticing it, the very air surrounding our referees has changed.

Not so long ago, he was a "good guy" who might have a bad match. Now, he is viewed with suspicion, mistrust and thinly veiled dislike from the outset. Not a very helpful development for the officials, players, managers and the game itself. The remedy is in the hands of the managers — they must stop criticising the referees in public. Their words are only ammunition for the Press, which in turn capitalises on controversy. Our referees are far from perfect — but they are honest, fit and enthusiastic. To coin a phrase, don't shoot the pianist, even if on occasion he is doing his worst!

LAST WORD-FROM BOB

THE wisecrack of the month is attributed to Liverpool manager Bob Paisley. When he was told that his prospective Israeli import, Avi Cohen, was unwilling to play football on Saturdays on religious grounds, Paisley said: "That's all right, we already have four blokes in the side who can't kick a ball on Saturdays!". Judging by Liverpool's results, the other seven must be playing pretty well.

● That's Cohen (right) playing in the snow during his stay at Liverpool.

TRIUMPH OUT OF ADVERSITY

by JOE CORRIGAN

in an interview with Harry Schofield

The safe hands of Joe Corrigan collect a cross under pressure from Steve Perryman.

THE night I was voted North West Sportsman of the Year by the Variety Artists was tremendous. It was also a reminder that things had not always been easy for me. Because of that and because of the reason why it was presented, some haunting memories were revived. If anybody wanted an inscription for the trophy it ought to be the triumph and the tragedy. That, in a nutshell, is the Joe Corrigan story.

Some people have long forgotten the tragedy part, when I came within a whisker of giving up soccer and going into business with a pal. I had become a goalkeeper by accident and it was by accident that I had joined Manchester City in the first place. When I was at school, I played rugby and, in the afternoon, I was centre-forward for a team run by my uncle. Later, when I left school to become a toolmaker with a Manchester engineering firm, I played centre half for the works team. One Saturday, it was cold at half time and, for a laugh, I went in goal and one or two of the lads took potshots at me, to keep warm. A mate of mine saw it, wrote to Manchester City saying that he had seen a goalkeeping prospect and they gave me a trial.

I survived the trial, but, when Joe Mercer asked the City coach if any talent had been seen, he made a remark, which was to haunt me for a long time afterwards. 'There was a goalkeeper called Corrigan. He could become a world beater — or a clown.' What a question mark to have hanging over your head at the start of a soccer career. I'm sure those two City giants Frank Swift and Bert Trautmann never had such an introduction.

The reason was that I was big and podgy. My size meant that I could not fail to be noticed. Big youngsters are naturally clumsy and when you do make a mistake it looks horrible. The Big Joe of those days was a bit different shape from the current Big Joe. But I had a pretty good start with City and even won an Under-23 cap against Russia at Old Trafford, where I watched most of my football in those days. I was a great admirer, even then, of that fine goalkeeper Harry Gregg. Then things started to go wrong.

Life's a funny thing and can change quickly. The terrible thing is that events come together in what seems a harmless way but, before you know it, you are caught up in disaster. The first significant event was that City paid £100,000 for another goalkeeper Keith MacRae. That shook me. Not long before, Ron Saunders, the City manager had gone out of his way to tell me that he thought I was the greatest goalkeeper he had seen in years. Then why, I wondered, does he pay a large sum for another goalkeeper? Then I broke my jaw in a practice match and was out for a month. This gave Keith time to establish himself and I found it hard to get back. When I did, I was in and out of the team like a yo-yo.

City weren't doing too well at the time and I began to be blamed. Corrigan's famous 'errors' were ruining the team's morale — so the Press said. I well remember the game against Derby County. They scored two goals and the reporters gave me a lot of stick for letting them in. Yet a couple of weeks later they both appeared on Match of the Day's 'Goal of the Month competition'.

The papers said I was too fat and would have to learn that hard work was necessary to make the top sport. Yet 'Fat Joe' went to Glasgow when City played Celtic and I still have the banner headlines, by the same writers who hammered me for being fat, announcing that Corrigan was City's hero with a masterly display of skill and courage. Is it any wonder that I began to be confused and to have doubts about myself. When they weren't blaming my errors on my excess weight, they decided that I was conceding goals because of the length of my hair.

Things became so bad that I began to dread running out of the tunnel on to the pitch. I felt like the condemned man on the eight o'clock walk when they used to hang people. I knew that I would have to face strikers from the front and knockers from the back. The fans began to believe what the Press was telling them and they gave me hell. How can you concentrate on stopping goals when thousands behind you are yelling for your blood? Goalkeeping is always a lonely job. But then it seemed I hadn't a friend in the whole of Maine Road. In a way it was a relief to play in away matches.

Fortunately a few people continued to believe in me. Harry Godwin refused to let me believe that I was a clown. He kept telling me that I had won an Under-23 cap and that nobody could take that away from me. He told me that life was like that for everybody in every walk of life and that it would pass.

It did and that award proved it. In fact it was given to me in the face of some stiff competition for the very thing that Harry Godwin talked about — sticking it out when things go wrong, believing in yourself and making the doubters believe in you again.

That award made the struggle worthwhile. I'm an older and wiser guy now and, as I looked back down the years as I was presented with the trophy, I realised that I was a better man as well as a better player for those dark days. They taught me a lesson, which I have never forgotten. I have only to think back to know that life is never certain. Even when you are at the top, you can't take success for granted. You still have to work just as hard to stay at the top as you have to get there. If ever I'm tempted to become a bit slack, my mind shows me those dark days of tragedy and that pulls me up with a jerk.

Life is good now in many ways. As well as success on the field, I get tremendous happiness from being Chairman of City's Junior Blues, the thousands of kids who support us, the crowds of the future. I have a great responsibility to them. I suppose I'm a sort of hero to them. But I have to live up to the tag of 'Big Joe'. To them it means more than being six feet three. It means a man they can look up to and model themselves on. I have to try as hard for them and their expectations as I do to please Tony Book and Ron Greenwood.

Trophies are funny things. They are always presented to one person and no person ever wins them alone. When I look at mine I remember the loyal people who made it possible — my wife Val, who never lost faith and ate salads until she looked like them, to help me diet and lose weight — Harry Godwin, who, by believing in me, forced me to believe in myself — Harry Gregg, who did so much to teach me the skills of goalkeeping, when I was a raw youngster on loan to Shrewsbury Town, my mother and father, who had to endure the knockers going up to them at work and telling them what a duffer their son was. Part of the trophy is for them, because, in the moment of triumph, you are aware just how close the hour of tragedy really is.

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BRAZIL

by Claudio Kuck of 'O Globo'

NEW WAVE ALL SET

ONLY five of the players who figured in Brazil's World Cup side in Argentina are likely to be called up at the end of this month when Claudio Coutinho names a squad of 17 for a friendly with Paraguay in Maracana.

Coutinho will base the team on four players from Flamengo, whom he is still successfully coaching, and the probable team is: Leao (Vasco) — Toninho (Flamengo), Oscar (Ponte Preta), Amaral (Corinthians), Junior (Flamengo) — Paulo Cesar Carpeggiani (Flamengo), Falcao (Internacional), Zico (Flamengo) — Nilton Batata (Santos), Serginho (Sao Paulo), Eder (Gremio).

There are some doubts about the left back and right winger, but Coutinho has hinted that they could be Junior and Nilton Batata.

As reserves he'll probably name goalkeeper Carlos (Ponte Preta), left back Miranda (Guarani), midfielder Batista (Internacional), and perhaps Joaozinho (Cruzeiro), Edinho (Fluminense), Cerezzo (Atletico Mineiro), Nunes (Fluminense) or Adilio (Flamengo).

A team playing attacking football again with a winger who can support the strikers rather than the midfield men is the aim for Coutinho, who will leave Flamengo next year to concentrate all his efforts on building a powerful national team.

From now on Brazil will play a friendly every month, always in midweek so as not to cause problems for the clubs in their local championships. After Paraguay they face Uruguay in May and Portugal in June. In July, August and September Brazil meet Bolivia and Argentina in the 'America Cup,' the South American championship.

Everybody in South America is already thinking ahead to these games, for they will provide the first meeting between Brazil and Argentina since the 0-0 draw in the 'Battle of Rosario' in the last World Cup. Coutinho wants his Brazil side to show Argentina's Cesar Menotti why he claimed after the finals that Brazil were moral champions.

Menotti, interviewed in a Brazilian magazine last month, said: "If Coutinho is still happy to be moral champion then good luck to him, because we in Argentina were also moral world champions for 20 years in the past . . .

Amaral of Brazil

"I'm sure neither Coutinho nor the Brazilian people like their football in the last World Cup. They forgot the natural ability, the spontaneity and happiness of Brazilian football.

"They lacked a style, a pattern of playing and were without personality. Sometimes they reminded me of a bad European side, sometimes of just a common South American team."

But Menotti did say that Brazil's 1970 side taught him some valuable lessons and "I was also lucky to play at Santos when Pele, Coutinho, Clodoaldo, Carlos Alberto were there."

UNDER-21 PLANS

MARIO TRAVAGLINI, coach to Brazil's under-21s, has picked 19 players who are going to play some friendly matches in Africa, Asia and Europe. He is building a new side after the disastrous performances of the team in the South American junior championships in Uruguay.

This new under-21 side will take part in the Pan-American Games next July in Puerto Rico.

PAULO CESAR MOVES

PAULO CESAR, the 1970 Brazilian World Cup reserve, has finally found a club. The left winger-cum-midfielder was fed up with Botafogo. He almost went to England, but a deal with Fulham was called off at the last minute.

A lot of gossip then flew — he would go to the United States, to Sao Paulo, to Parana . . . but the clubs were afraid of him. Everyone knew he was a good player and skilful enough, but the question was: Did he still seriously want to play football? Would he forget the beach, night clubs and sports car and dedicate himself again to being a responsible team-member?

Gremio of Porto Alegre took the gamble and at the moment are very pleased with him. Paulo Cesar signed a two-year contract which brought only £50,000 for Botafogo but an extra £25,000 for him.

He has fitted in well alongside Tarciso, Andre and Eder and was the best player when Gremio beat the Argentine national champions Independiente (4-0) as well as the Argentine metropolitan champions Quilmes to win the Rosario Carnival tournament.

Gremio also made a winning start in the Rio Grande do Sul championship, beating Caxias 2-0. Paulo Cesar was again the centre of everything. He wants to show that those who didn't trust him were wrong and that he still counts among Brazil's best players.

GUARANI WIN AND LOSE

GUARANI are the little club from Sao Paulo who won the 1978 Brazilian championship. They don't have any international experience but started well in the Libertadores Cup, beating Peruvian champions Alianza 3-0 in Lima.

Veteran midfielder Ze Carlos was outstanding while Peruvian World Cup idol Teofilo Cubillas played so badly he was substituted by Palacios in the second half. For the first time in his career Cubillas was jerred by the Alianza supporters, and will shortly be on his way to play in the North American Soccer League.

However, Guarani showed their lack of experience in their second Cup game, losing 3-0 to Universitario, also in Lima. Bozo scored an own goal after only five minutes and Guarani lost their grip.

In the second half they tried desperately to draw level but were caught out by two counter attacks. Now they must beat Alianza and Universitario in Sao Paulo. Palmeiras are in the same group, but haven't yet played.

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The BRIAN GLANVILLE column

Casting doubts on English euphoria

I STILL wish I could believe in the present England team; and I still can't, though I am pretty sure that it will qualify for the Nations Cup Finals of 1980 in Italy. The game against Bulgaria in Sofia next June, which once looked as high a hurdle as Becher's Brook, now seems eminently negotiable. Even a draw would be sufficient. By then, moreover, England's rivals will have been inflicting damage on one another. On May 10, there is activity on both sides of the Irish border, Northern Ireland playing at home to Bulgaria, and Eire entertaining the Danes.

Ron Greenwood will, I hope, use the subsequent British International Championship for some experiment. The England team which beat Northern Ireland 4-0 won by default, and has weaknesses which shriek aloud. Nor can it forever rely on the individual excellence of Keegan to pull its chestnuts out of the fire. Splendid though he was against Northern Ireland, brilliant though he was in Copenhagen, he was negligible against the Czechs, and was played out of the game in Dublin by Lawrenson and O'Leary.

The 4-4-2, alias 4-2-4, still doesn't convince me as a system, any more than the Liverpudlians in England's defence convinced me as remotely the best men for the job. I don't want to trot out, yet again, what I consider the cogent arguments against 4-4-2, or whatever you care to call it, but it does still seem to me to leave an alarming void in the midfield. That void was abundantly exploited by the Danes and by Eire. Trevor Brooking, surely one of the finest midfield players in Europe, and Tony Currie, so abundantly talented, are inside-forwards infinitely worth their place; but inside-forwards are what they are. How much authority did England's midfield exert over Liam Brady, in Dublin? A three-man midfield, a three-man attack without an orthodox centre-forward, which would among other things give Keegan more scope and room, seem mandatory to me.

Keegan's probable absence from the international championship will allow Greenwood to postpone the problem, as he will no doubt use the chance to put Trevor Francis into the side without dropping anybody. Francis and Bob Latchford worked long years together when the two were at Birmingham City, but despite his two goals against the Northern Irish, I still cannot remotely see Latchford as an international striker. The modern game demands much greater fluidity and technical ability.

About Steve Coppell and Peter Barnes, I find it very hard to make up my mind. Against Northern Ireland, Coppell made an appalling beginning, possibly the consequence of nervous tension, then became — *pace* Keegan — just about the most dangerous attacker on the park, maker and exploiter of chances. The save which Pat Jennings made from him was quite extraordinary, but alas, far from presaging another of Jennings superb games for his country, it was a false dawn. Something went awfully wrong; he had one of his rare bad ones.

Trevor Francis makes his League debut for Nottingham Forest as substitute — and collects his new team-mates tracksuits!

Mr. Ericsson, the blond Swedish referee, scarcely helped the Irish with his decisions. Jennings did seem to me to be impeded when Dave Watson scored his goal, while I thought Ireland should have had a penalty when Clemence ruthlessly made contact with McIlroy rather than the bouncing ball near the goal line and well inside the area.

England's defence has been properly criticised. That we can find no one to play beside Watson in the middle is a commentary not on Ron Greenwood but on the poverty of our Championship. It is time, however, that Kenny Sansom, a natural left-footer of great combativeness, power, pace and adventure, were given his chance, while Phil Neal is surely a lucky man to be still in contention; even if there are suspicions about Viv Anderson's defensive capabilities.

In goal, the preference of Clemence to Peter Shilton, after the Nottingham Forest goalkeeper's magnificent saving display against the Czechs, flew in the face of all logic; and could well have been disastrous. While Shilton is playing as well as he is at the moment, it is perverse not to play him.

★

THE North American Soccer League is not the only institution in the United States which bends the laws of the game. The colleges distort them, too. They have long ago given up the kick-in from touch instead of the throw — it is left now to the French to make misbegotten attempts at imposing it — but their way with substitues is barbarous; and immeasurably self-defeating.

In a word, they are unlimited. Yes, unlimited. Thus, in the semi-finals of this season's national college championship, the Indiana team, one of the worst and most shameless offenders, actually used TWENTY subs! Very properly, the coach of the eventual champions, from San Francisco, roundly criticised such methods, which he castigated as a travesty of the game. Indiana's way is to use a plethora of big, blond, corn-fed all-American boys whose skill is limited, whose stamina may or may not be limited, but who have little need even to put it to the test, since almost as soon as they are on the field, they are off it again.

To me, this is little more than a form of cheating, but it is in the last analysis, worse than that; it does the American game great harm. Soccer — which American schools and colleges have also been known to divide, Lord help us, into quarters — is a ninety-minute game, with a break in the middle. Boys who come endlessly on and off the field as substitutes will never, never learn to pace themselves and play it properly; any more than those who play with a 35-yard offside law will learn to master the subtleties of the game as it is properly conducted.

Gordon Clark, former manager of West Bromwich and Peterborough, former chief scout for Arsenal, who is now back working in London soccer again, has another criticism.

He strongly disagreed with the man-to-man methods practised at Olympic level by Walt Chyzowych, an American of Ukrainian descent who is now the natural coach. Clark has told me he feels that it inhibits young players from expressing themselves as they might and should.

Club Focus on BANIK OSTRAVA

BANIK OSTRAVA O.K.D.
Founded: September 8, 1922.
Colours: Blue and white.
Championships: 1976 (one).
Czech Cup: 1973, 1978 (twice).
Chairman: Miloslav Dopita.
Coach: Evzen Hadamcik.
Stadium: Bazalech, capacity 35,000 (inc. 7,000 seats).

MINERS BECOME MAJOR FORCE

by KEIR RADNEDGE

IT'S not just in the north-east of England as far as football is concerned, or Wales when rugby is the game — the tradition of whistling down the pit shaft when you need a new superstar is legend across Europe.

Probably the most famous Continental centre for miners-turned-footballers is Silesia in south-west Poland, home of Ruch Chorzow and Gornik Zabrze. And though these clubs may have fallen on hard times of late, there's little doubt that they'll be back at the top before too long.

It was a footballing cousin of theirs, too, who had such a major role in European international and club football in the late 1950s. Raymond Kopa may have been born in France, may have steered Reims to the first Champions' Cup final, won three winners' medals with Real Madrid, and guided his national team to third place in the 1958 World Cup.

But his father was a Polish miner named Kopaszewski and it was in a pit accident that the youthful Raymond lost the tip of one finger — an incident which gave him the added incentive to make sure he succeeded at football!

If Kopa was a distant cousin of the Polish football heroes, then how much closer must be the relationship to Silesia of Banik Ostrava, the little-known Czech club who — as much to their own surprise as anyone else's — found themselves in the Cup-winners' Cup quarter-finals this spring?

For Ostrava, the fourth-biggest town in Czechoslovakia with a population of about 300,000, is the other side of the Polish border and is the Czech centre for coal and steel production.

Since the foundation of what is now the Banik club, it has been a multi-sports organisation run by and for miners — that's what the word Banik means. And now it's thanks to the full and official backing of the Ostrava-Karvina Coalfield, a corporation of nearly 100,000 employees, that the football section can operate without having to worry about making ends meet.

The club includes 25 sections for different sports and has a total membership of more than 4,000, including one gold medal winner from the 1964 Tokyo Olympic weightlifting contest, and another who found gold in the wrestling in Munich eight years later.

In fact for many years individual successes in 'secondary' sports were the only sort of success Banik obtained. The football team got nowhere. Yet it had been for the purpose of playing football that a dozen miners got together after work on September 8, 1922, at an inn called The Oak Tree to bring the club into being.

The suburb of the town where The Oak Tree stood is called Slezska and so for the first 25 years of the club's existence it was known as SK Slezska Ostrava.

They were difficult years. It was only in 1937 that Slezska managed to reach the senior championship, remaining three years before slipping back. From 1943 however — with the exceptions of 1949-50 and 1965-66 — they have remained in the first division, though without setting the league alight.

The change of name to Banik followed in the wake of the political reorganisation which followed the Communist takeover after the second world war, but it didn't bring much of an improvement in results. Banik were frequent participants in the summer International Cup, the Intertoto competition, as well as in the fading Mitropa Cup, but even these competitions seemed to sum up what the club was all about: being also-rans.

Not for Banik the glamour and excitement of the Champions' Cup. That went the way of Dukla Prague or Slovan Bratislava. Their best placing in the league remained a surprising second in 1954, though Miroslav Wiecek did bring some national notoriety by finishing as the first division's top scorer in 1952, 1958 and 1959.

Centre forward Jiri Krizak was the other star of those days, though Banik's lack of fortune followed him even as far as the national team. When he appeared set for a long run in the Czech senior side he was seriously injured in a 3-1 defeat by Italy in Bari in December 1947. (Playing inside right that day, during his brief stay in Czech football, was Ladislav Kubala, the Hungarian who is now manager of Spain.)

Few other names made headlines. Vaclav Moravek, Jiri Vecerek and Vladimir Bouzek all played for Czechoslovakia, but it took goalkeeper Frantisek Schmucker to finally put the club on the Czech football map.

Schmucker, born in 1940, won a silver medal with Czechoslovakia at the 1964 Tokyo Olmpics as he progressed after having been No. 3 goalkeeper in the 1962 World Cup squad when Czechoslovakia finished runners-up to Brazil.

Frantisek Valosek was also in the Tokyo squad and since their day several more Banik players have become better-known as internationals. Yet despite the frequent appearances for Czechoslovakia of goalkeeper Pavel Michalik — today's No. 1 — defenders Rostislav Vojacek, Zdenek Rygel and, in midfield, of Lubomir Knapp, it remains an odd quirk that in the year they finally won the championship for the first time, 1976, not one Banik player featured in the team who won the European championship a month or two later!

But how did Banik turn from outsiders into champions?

The turnabout began at the end of the first half of the 1972-73 season, when Banik were next to bottom of the first division. They'd been through three trainers in three years in a desperate bid to stave off what appeared inevitable relegation. Now they were forced into another change. Rudolf Vytlacil, the Viennese-born ex-international left winger who had guided Czechoslovakia to the 1962 World Cup, resigned because of ill health.

To replace Vytlacil the club turned to one of his 1962 players, Tomas Pospichal. An outside right with a neat turn of speed, Pospichal it was who laid on Czechoslovakia's opening goal for Josef Masopust in the 1962 World Cup Final against Brazil.

Then it was back home to pick up a career as a coach. Banik took him from a small-town club called Brevnov, based on the outskirts of Prague. At 38 he was the youngest coach in the first division, and he was appalled at what he found at Banik.

Later he recalled: "When I arrived the players were worse than mediocre, there was no discipline in the club and no confidence."

Pospichal soon took care of that. The players' expectations of a cosy winter break were shattered as Pospichal worked them mercilessly.

"We'd never had to sweat so much," said international left-winger Milan Albrecht.

But when the season restarted all that work

soon paid off. Pospichal had set Banik to a new style and though it was hardly attractive — stern safety-first stuff based on a solid defence — it not only took Banik up the table to safety but saw them to a 1-2, 3-1 win over VSS Kosice in the Czechoslovak Cup Final.

Banik's experience in Europe has been limited to a first round defeat by Vitoria Guimaraes in the Fairs' Cup in 1969-70. They didn't have a lot more success in the 1973-74 Cup-winners' Cup. But at least they later had the minor satisfaction of knowing that the eventual winners, East Germany's Magdeburg, needed extra time in which to beat them in their second round clash.

Pospichal's main target had been the league and at the halfway stage Banik appeared well on course. They were clear leaders at the start of the midwinter break, but despite Pospichal's hopes of maintaining the momentum in the spring, Banik fell back and finished fourth, three points behind new champions Slovan.

It was enough at least to put them into the UEFA Cup, and with the confident knowledge that they had gone unbeaten through their Intertoto excursions in the summer of 1974 and that in Jiri Klement (14 goals) they had one of the league's top scorers, they made a sturdy impression in Europe in the winter of 1974-75.

Real Sociedad and San Sebastian were beaten 1-0 and 4-0, and Nantes of France 0-1 and 2-0 (after extra time). Banik even beat Napoli in the third round, 1-1 and 2-0 before facing Borussia Moenchengladbach in the rarified atmosphere — for them — of the quarter finals.

The West Germans were surprised when Pospichal said he would not be going to spy on them. He explained: "Last season I went to see Magdeburg and studied all their weak and strong points. Yet we went out. This season, for various reasons, I haven't been able to spy beforehand on Real Sociedad, Nantes or Napoli and we have won each time."

Pospichal didn't trust entirely to superstition however. He did take the precaution of sending assistant coach Jiri Sklar and a cameraman to a Borussia league game, but it did Banik little good. With Klement barely fit after six months troubled by a knee injury, then went down 0-1, 1-3.

Unfortunate Banik goalkeeper Pavel Michalik is turned upside down as England's Steve Coppell scores the only goal of the game against Czechoslovakia at Wembley in December.

In the league they struggled to ninth place and at the end of the season Pospichal was replaced by 54-year-old Jiri Rubas.

It was a change of trainer but not a change in policy. Rubas, once full back with Bohemians Prague, maintained Pospichal's policy of encouraging the younger players and it paid off in spectacular fashion with Banik's first championship!

But just as Pospichal's time had been hampered by injuries, so Rubas fared little better. Into the Champions' Cup, past Viking Stavanger, and drawn against holders Bayern Munich, Banik's growing band of supporters had the shock of learning that the complete midfield trio of Knapp, Tondra and Radimec all needed knee operations.

No wonder Rubas was worried about facing Bayern. He had been with Skoda Pilzen when Bayern once hammered six past them in the Cup-winners' Cup, and Skoda had been at full strength!

In the event Banik went down bravely, even winning the home leg 2-1. Bayern's assistant coach Werner Kern complained that when he had travelled to spy on Banik, the Czech officials had given him the wrong names for the shirt numbers!

This subterfuge was of no account in West Germany: Banik crashed 5-0. In the league they finished seventh, slipped to 10th last season and even the 1-0 cup final win over Jednota Trencin wasn't enough to save Rubas's job.

Chairman Miloslav Dopita, once a basketball league player and now a highly qualified mining engineer, turned to Evzen Hadamcik, a 39-year-old coach remembered in Banik for his career as a player in the second division in the local team of the nearby town of Opava.

To help Hadamcik is Vladimir Mokrohajsky, aged 44, who played once in goal for Czechoslovakia's senior team and eight times for the B side. It seems a useful enough partnership and once again Banik can claim the youngest coach in the first division!

THE PLAYERS

Goal:

PAVEL MICHALIK. Aged 28. Czechoslovakia's No. 1 goalkeeper since the enforced retirement of Ivo Viktor. Had a sticky start but there was no doubt about his place on the recent tour of South America. Has won 10 caps and has played 119 league games since entering the Banik team midway through the 1974-75 season.

LUDEK MIKLOSKO. Aged 18. Signed last summer, without previous first division experience.

STANISLAV VAHALA. Aged 19. Another newcomer, filling the place in the squad of the semi-retired Schumucker.

Defence:

JOSEF FOKS. Right back. Aged 25. Has played three times for Czechoslovakia B as well as 68 league matches for Banik.

ROSTISLAV VOJACEK. Stopper. Aged 30. Has played eight times for the Czech A team, including the recent unlucky 1-0 defeat against England at Wembley. Made his Czech debut five years ago as a substitute in a 3-1 win over East Germany, though he had first been called up into the squad in 1972. Born at Krenovice, Vojacek's ambition was always to be a goalkeeper, but his height and weight made him an ideal central defender. During national service played in the second division for Dukla Tabor and when he left the army chose Banik in preference to four other interested clubs. 213 league games. 13 goals.

LIBOR RADIMEC. Sweeper. Aged 29. A member of the Czech Olympic squad aiming for Moscow, was also called up as a reserve for the England game after injury in a car crash to Anton Ondrus. Radimec began his career in midfield, but was converted back to the centre of defence by Rubas.

ZDENEK RYGEL. Aged 28. A fast attacking full back who has been a Banik regular for more than five years. Has won four full caps and played 130 league games, scoring five goals. Another member of the Czech Olympic squad.

JIRI RUS. Centre back. Aged 26. Has scored six goals in his 93 league games for Banik.

LUBOMIR SRAMEK. Full back. Aged 22. Five leage games. Signed a year ago.

ZDENEK FRIES. Full back. Aged 18. Newcomer.

Midfield:

PETR NEMEC. Aged 22. A Czech under-21 international, has played 45 league matches and scored seven goals.

LUBOMIR KNAPP. Aged 29. The turning point of the Banik midfield. Made his international debut in a 2-2 draw against Poland in 1974. Has since played in nine more games for the Czech senior side. Totals 126 league games and 22 goals.

ZDENEK SREINER. Aged 25. Has played 35 league matches for Banik and scored five goals.

VACLAV PECHACEK. Aged 20. Can also play in defence and is a member of the Czech under-21 squad. Six league games so far for Banik, whom he joined last year.

Forwards:

WERNER LICKA. Aged 25. Right side striker, and a member of the Czech Olympic squad. Totals 59 league games with eight goals. Got his first senior chance with Banik through the injuries which decimated the club's midfield on the eve of the Champions' Cup tie with Bayern three years ago.

AUGUSTIN ANTALIK. Aged 26. Came to Banik as a midfield player, but made a wily centre forward leading the attack at the start of the season. Totals 31 league matches and two goals.

PETR ZAJAROS. Aged 22. A member of the Czech under-21 team, has played 13 league games.

JOSEF MARCHEVSKY. Aged 27. Newcomer last summer, signed to strengthen the forwards. 12 goals in 34 league games.

MILAN ALBRECHT. Aged 29. Five full caps and a member of the 1970 World Cup squad, though he didn't play in Mexico. Has returned to Banik after his national service. A skilful left-sided player, totals 236 league games and 42 goals with Banik.

UNLUCKY CAMACHO

JOSE ANTONIO CAMACHO, Real Madrid's luckless left back, has agreed to another operation on the injured knee which has kept him out for more than a year.

This decision killed any hopes he had of returning this season, since doctors reckon it will be another four months before he can get back into full training.

* * *

HUELVA'S directors resigned en bloc in protest at the FEF decision to shut their ground for one game after a pitch invasion which brought a premature end to their 2-1 home defeat by Real Sociedad. The match was stopped in the 78th minute after Real Sociedad's second goal.

THERE'S something about Valencia and penalties. Rainer Bonhof and Mario Kempes have both missed spot kicks this season — but at least it isn't all one-way traffic.

In the 1-1 draw with Barcelona Hans Krankl had a penalty saved by substitute goalkeeper Pereira . . . substitute goalkeeper because Jose Luis Manzanedo had been sent off for protesting at the award!

* * *

ONE alteration in the Teresa Herrera programme at Coruna in August. Brazilian club Vasco da Gama won't be there, so Gijon have been added and will play the second semi-final against West Bromwich. The first semi is between Honved and holders Real Madrid — who, incidentally, are being paid more than the other three clubs put together.

* * *

ESPANOL president Manuel Meler is determined that their Sarria stadium shall stage some World Cup games in 1982. However, he estimates he will need a £2 million grant to bring it up to scratch.

* * *

BARCELONA'S players have refused to give Press interviews in protest at hypercritical reporting of their matches.

SPAIN with Keir Radnedge

1,670 go on strike

SPANISH football was shaken to the core by the unprecedented strike of its 1,670 professional footballers on Sunday, March 4.

But a lot of sympathy for the players' aims was dissipated by a magazine report that the first division men are the highest-paid in Europe.

According to the survey the average annual salary is £40,000, almost twice that of England.

The players immediately came in for hefty disciplinary action from their clubs.

The FEF said: "The players have hit soccer in the worst possible way. Not only have they committed serious disciplinary breaches but they have hurt the soccer fan, the hand that feeds them." And the federation announced that players would all be fined 10 per cent of their annual salaries!

"That's ridiculous," said players' union (AFE) vice-president Vicente Del Bosque, the Real Madrid midfielder. Rather than frighten the players back to the pitches, he warned that this could increase their militancy.

Del Bosque and his president, Barcelona's Juan Manuel Asensi, had stressed all along that the players' claim was not so much financial as involved with conditions. They wanted some freedom of contract and a lifting of the age restrictions imposed on the lower divisions.

The Ministry of Labour warned the players several days before that fateful March 4 that a strike would be illegal. Nevertheless they went ahead — with unexpected consequences in some places. Barcelona flew off to the Canary Islands for their match hoping the strike would be called off.

When it wasn't the players, instead of donning jerseys and shorts and trotting out on to the pitch, donned bathing trunks and wandered off to the swimming pools and beaches.

The following Wednesday they were safely back in action at Ipswich in the Cup-winners' Cup, since Barcelona were Spain's last representatives in Europe. Incidentally, the players were on a £1,800 bonus to win that tie!

Perhaps Asensi's preoccupations with union business may account for Barcelona's slack form in the league. Hans Krankl, however, has gone on scoring goals like a machine — a hat-trick against Hercules took his total to 23, far ahead of Gijon's Quini on 18.

With preoccupations of his own has been Johan Neeskens. The 27-year-old Dutchman's contract expires at the season's end and he wants a new three-year-deal worth £300,000.

President Joe Luis Nunez, no great fan of Neeskens in any case, was not impressed, and it seems the brilliant midfield man may move to Strasbourg in France.

As I write Barcelona are fourth in the table, level with Las Palmas on 25 points. The Canary Islanders' success is a feather in the cap of Miguel Munoz, one-time captain and boss of Real Madrid.

The goals of Carlos Morete and the saves of Daniel Carnevali — both Argentinians — have been important for Las Palmas, but they have been more than stealing their results. Although Madrid knocked them out of the Cup 4-2, 1-1, Las Palmas came back in the league to Chamartin and were more than worth a point from a 1-1 draw.

Action from the Spanish League between Rayo Vallecano and Valencia.

After Morete equalised Carlos Santillana's early goal Madrid were pleased to hang on, though the result meant they squandered a chance to take over again at the top from Gijon.

The surprise leaders — ahead on goal average despite going down 2-1 to struggling Rayo Vallecano — keep going at a rate which could stretch injury-hit Madrid, their only serious challengers.

What's your secret? Gijon coach Vicente Miera was asked.

"There's no secret," he replied, "just consistency. Right from the start of the season we've played well at home. Our only problem has been in scoring goals away. We had the complication of the UEFA Cup but in many ways I'm glad we got knocked out. I don't think we had the experience or the resources to cope with two major competitions simultaneously."

Though I said Madrid and Gimon are the only two serious title rivals, in fact their joint stutterings have allowed Atletico Madrid to creep up in third place. Atletico have lost Spain midfielder Eugenio Leal for the rest of the season with knee trouble, but did well to score a 2-0 away win in San Sebastian.

Argentine-born centre forward Ruben Cano scored both the goals from penalties. The only set-back for Athletico was the expulsion in the last minute of Brazilian striker Leivinha for retaliation. That means another absence — this time through suspension — of a man frequently enough sidelined by injury.

Leivinha will probably leave Atletico at the season's end, which could involve the club in the rush to buy Zaragoza's young international forward, Angel Alonso. He was a surprise choice for a couple of Spain's World Cup warm-up games despite playing in the second division last season.

And he did his reputation no harm recently with five goals in Zaragoza's 8-1 thrashing of Espanol.

Valencia fans are wishing Mario Kempes could get back on that sort of goal trail. At least he has shown signs of his old form, with two goals in the 3-1 win over Las Palmas, since relinquishing the captaincy.

Rainer Bonhof, however, is not so popular. He's had another swipe at manager Marcel Domingo in an interview and Domingo's instant reaction was to call for a fine and suspension on the unhappy West German, who could return home at the season's end.

Borussia Moenchengladbach have stated publicly that they would be prepared to pay Valencia the £450,000 they received for Bonhof last summer.

NO CAKE

BENFICA found their visit to Madeira anything but a piece of cake recently because they were beaten by lowly Maritimo 2-1 at the Eastadio dos Barreiros.

Porto who had previously won 2-0 when visiting the island were thus able to keep their lead at the top of the Portuguese First Division after their own three clear goals win at equally lowly Academico.

Benfica were a goal behind after 15 minutes to the Brazilian called China who is on Porto's wanted list of players. Arnaldo Silva made it 2-0 after 33 minutes and though Jorge pulled one back for Benfica after 74 minutes and Nene had a strong claim for a penalty turned down, Maritimo survived.

But Benfica with a game in hand of Porto are only two points behind Porto and have a superior goal difference.

Meantime at the bottom of the table Viseu have 11 points and a game in hand over Academico with 13 points and Maritimo with 15.

Brazilians are doing quite well at present in Portugal with Zandonaide among the goals for Sporting Lisbon and Eldon and Rogerio Nobre scoring in the battle of the cellar dwellers which Academico won 4-0 over Viseu.

Benfica lost out early in the Portuguese Cup as well as being defeated by Sporting Braga, who were successful by the odd goal in three.

Trevor meets record breaker!

England international Trevor Brooking was guest of honour at the recent London Speedway Honours Ball where the West Ham midfield maestro made the presentations. Trevor is pictured making one of the awards to speedway international Dave Jessup . . . who had just figured in a world record transfer fee for speedway of £20,000!

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SOUTH AMERICA

Coutinho to lead once-a-month Brazil

BRAZIL starts preparing for the South American nations championship (the America Cup) in April with a team which is likely to be very similar to the one which was third in the last World Cup . . . and it will again be under the same coach, Claudio Coutinho.

The re-election of Admiral Heleno Nuñes as president of the Brazilian Sports Confederation (CBD) resulted in his confirming all his assistants in their posts, including Coutinho who has been successfully managing Carioca League champions Flamengo since the World Cup. He will now be assisted by Corintians coach, José Teizeira. Coutinho has not officially picked the squad, but said that he was satisfied with the one which did duty in the last World Cup. Meanwhile, he was called up a young squad, including only three World Cup men, winger Edinho, defender Oscar and reserve goalkeeper Carlos, to work with 1982 in view.

At the same time the CBD has told Coutinho to form a permanent Brazilian national team to play at least once a month and clubs have been asked to give all help in releasing players, but they are not likely to be so ready to do this as for the World Cup. So present plans are for a squad of 16 players (changeable) which would be brought together on Monday when they are due to play on Wednesday of that week.

Peru, the other South American team to qualify for last year's World Cup finals and present holders of the America Cup (won in 1975 when the South American Championship was last played) have a similar system in mind and have already named a 45-man pre-selection. The list includes most of the players who did duty in the last World Cup — including Chumpitaz (36), goalkeeper Sartor (35), Navarro and Manzo (both 31). This brought wide-spread protests from press and fans about the high average age, because Peru's permanent selection — which would be something new in that country as also in Brazil — naturally has the 1982 World Cup finals as its prime objective.

Also included are World Cup players Velazquez and Sotil, recently signed by Colombia's Independiente Medellin, and Labarthe who has joined Palestino (Chile). The Peruvian FA has meanwhile banned transfers abroad unless authorised by them — a measure which, it is felt, has come too late when some of the best players have already left. Critics also feel that this goes against "the right to work where one wants to" and that instead better salaries should be paid to Peruvian players to keep them at home, while a selection of players between the ages of 26 and 27 should be formed with the next World Cup finals in view, confining the transfer ban to these players only.

● Final results of a nation-wide poll conducted by the Colombian newspaper, "El Espectador" on whether that country should stage the 1986 World Cup finals or not, were: 66.62 per cent for and 33.38 per cent against.

Defender Bordon puts Boca Juniors (Argentina) ahead after seven minutes against Brazil's Internacional de Porto Alegre and on the way to a 3-2 victory in the summer tournament in Argentina's sea-side resort, Mar del Plata.

FIGUEROA EXAMPLE

ELIAS FIGUEROA, one of Chile's most famous players has, at 32, just signed a new two year contact — for 100,000 dollars — with newly crowned first division champions Palestino at the beginning of the year and was getting ready in the mid-summer heat, to play for his team in the Libertadores Cup. Palestino was due to face Guarani and Palmeiras, champions and vice-champions respectively of Brazil where Figueroa spent some of the best years of his distinguished career.

When he returned to Chile at the end of the 1975 season, the critics said it was because he was finished, but in his first season back they had to eat their words and name him best player in his position — central defender and sweeper — and it is still that way . . . because defenders of such quality are hard to find these days.

Figueroa, born near the port city of Valparaiso in 1947, started to play with Valparaiso Wanderers in league football and was picked for the Chilean junior team at 17. At 20 he was already a star in the Chilean full international side when Peñarol (Uruguay) bought him to play alongside such players as Matosas, Rocha, Abadie and goalkeeper Mazurkiewicz in one of their great teams which won Uruguayan titles, reached the Libertadores Cup final and went on frequent, successful tours all over the world. In 1971 he was transferred to one of Brazil's leading clubs, Internacional de Porto Alegre, became their oustanding player and captain and won the Brazilian national championship with them in 1975 when he headed in the winner against Cruzeiro of Belo Horizonte. Then he wanted to return home with his wife, Marcela, and two sons.

Even while abroad, Figueroa had been a permanent fixture in the Chilean national team since 1966, played an outstanding part in their 1974 World Cup qualifying and final round campaign and again in the last World Cup when the team had a good defence, but lacked forwards and was eliminated in their qualifying group by Peru. But among the honours he treasures most is that of having been nominated best player of South America three years running (1974-76) by a popular poll.

As a central defender and very reliable sweeper Figueroa still has no peers on this continent. His style, technique and, above all, clean play have earned him names such as "Marshall", "Magnificent" and "Exquisite", although in Chile they still simply call him "Don Elias". He is the idol of the kids and runs a highly successful soccer school for boys. His excellent physique and fitness for his age are the result of clean living, looking after himself and taking his job seriously . . . which also makes him a bit of a rarity among professional soccer players here.

What's more, while most players think of becoming coaches when their playing days are over, Figueroa wants to become a lawyer. He started studying for his degree while playing in Brazil and although he has met some difficulty in continuing his studies back in Santiago, he hopes to resume them soon. But either way, "Don Elias" should have none of the economic problems often encountered by ex-soccer players. He has invested his earnings from football wisely in Uruguay, Brazil and Chile while TV stations continually seek his services as commentator on social, artistic and sports affairs and as a soccer instructor. Figueroa has even participated in a fashion show, written poems and made a record of carnival songs while in Brazil. All these activities still leave him time to do a lot of charity work.

In Chile, Figueroa is looked upon as a model of what every professional footballer should be . . . on and off the field.

River Plate's Luque — the Mar del Plata summer tournament's top scorer (5 goals) opens the score against Czechoslovakia with the latter's goalie, Hruska, on the ground. River Plate, playing their first match during pre-season training, won 4-1 with surprising ease after scoring three goals in the first 20 minutes. In the last match River beat traditional rivals Boca Juniors 1-0 — in what could well be their only meetings this year as they are drawn in different sections of the first division championship — amd won the tournament with seven points (from four matches), followed by Czechoslovakia 5, Boca Juniors and Racing Club 3 and International de Porto Alegre (Brazil) 2.

by ERIC WEIL

THE COME BACK BOYS

AS Argentine clubs get ready for what promises to be an exciting first division championship, there is hope that the standard may also be better than last year's as the exodus of star players seems to be reversing.

This season's first division championship will be played in two sections of 10 clubs playing each other home and away. The top two per section then play two-legged semi-finals and finals for the title, while the bottom two enter a four-team round-robin tournament to decide three clubs to be relegated. This should assure excitement at both ends all the way in a much shorter tournament — 18 games per team before the finals instead of last year's 40.

The format had been tried before with success, but at that time there was an uneven number of teams per section allowing for weekly inter-section games between traditional rivals. This season however, Boca Juniors and River Plate for example (Argentina's greatest soccer rivals) are not scheduled to meet unless they reach the finals. Nevertheless, it is hoped that the alarming trend of falling gates will be reversed.

While not a single leading player has left the country for several months, several are returning. The Washington Diplomats, of the North American Soccer League, recently approached River Plate for World Cup captain Daniel Passarella and although the price offered — 1,450,000 dollars — seemed to satisfy, the method of payment — over five years — did not. The reverse trend was started late last season when former World Cup midfielder Babington returned to revitalise his old club, Huracan. Now another 1974 World Cup defender, Heredia, has returned from France to play for Rosario Central, former international forwards Santamarina and Doval have come back from France and Brazil to play for Newell's Old Boys and San Lorenzo (the latter's old club) and more negotiations are in progress.

The championship was scheduled to start on March 5 and the transfer register generally closes a couple of days before, but so far Boco Juniors and River Plate have, as usual, made the transfer headlines.

River Plate captured Uruguayan internationals Alfredo de Los Santos (back) and Juan Carrasco (half), but could not come to terms with Oscar Fabbiani, the Argentine born centre-forward of Chilean champions Palestino who has been leading scorer in the Chilean first division for the last three seasons.

Boca Juniors' most important captures were midfielder Berta — one of the best players in the division last season — and forward Rocha from Newell's Old Boys, but in pre-season friendlies they have shown that they have not yet got into the club's hard running style.

Velez Sarsfield have signed Peruvian World Cup defender Manzo, but one return which may not be so welcome is that of Carlos Bilardo to coach San Lorenzo. Bilardo spent his playing days with Estudiantes de La Plata when they won the Libertadores Cup three years running (1968-70) and were known as the dirtiest team in the world. He returned from Colombia where he coached Deportivo Cali to success — they were Libertadores Cup finalists and league runners-up last season — but he was one of the people blamed for turning Colombian soccer into a rough-house. What will he do at San Lorenzo?

Pre-season activity has been mostly confined to Mar del Plata's annual summer tournament with the participation of Czechoslovakia and Brazilian club, Internacional de Porto Alegre. Czechoslovakia pleased the crowds with their play, but did not exactly get good results, finishing with a 2-1-1 record against club sides which had just started tuning up for the new season and also losing up country against non-first division Cordoba club, Belgrano.

River Plate clicked best in Mar del Plata with 11 goals in their first three games, from centre-forward Luque, defender Passarella and midfielder Alonso — all three World Cup men.

ELSEWHERE . . .

● **CHILE** — Former Uruguayan World Cup goalkeeper Mazurkiewicz, whose outstanding performances helped Cobreloa (promoted last season) to finish second in the first division, renewed his contract with the club for 25,000 dollars — easily a Chilean record and far in excess of the 8,000 dollars ceiling which the clubs wanted to fix to stop the country's "soccer inflation" which is ruining most clubs. Champions Palestino signed two Peruvian internationals to strengthen their team for the Libertadores Cup — defender Soria (a former Independiente player from Sporting Cristal) and winger Labarthe (from Sports Boys). Meanwhile the Chilean FA has reduced the number of foreigners permitted in league matches from four to three per team.

● **COLOMBIA** — Colombian clubs continue importing players and coaches. To name just a few — Bucamaranga have bought three Argentine first division players (Premici from Argentinos Juniors, Rodriguez from All Boys, Onis from Estudiantes de La Plata), America de Cali two leading Paraguayan players (Battaglia and Gonzalez) and Independiente Medellin two Peruvian World Cup players (half Velazquez and forward Sotil) and on the eve of the start of this season's championship the 14 clubs had registered 45 foreign players — 34 Argentines, six Paraguayans, three Peruvians and two Uruguayans.

Meanwhile, Argentine coaches Dellacha and Bilardo left Millionarios and Deportivo Cali respectively after taking them to first and second place in 1978, the former to join Nacional (Uruguay) and the latter San Lorenzo (Argentina), but this has not reduced the foreign contingent. Millionarios have replaced Pedro Dellacha with Argentine-born Eduardo Hohberg, a former goal-scoring Uruguayan international and one-time World Cup team coach, while reporting Dellacha to the South American Football Confederation for breach of contract.

UP TO THE PLAYERS

THE more I observe the Hungarian football scene, the more I am convinced that only open professionalism can save their sinking reputation.

Throughout the years, various remedies have been tried to no avail. Reforms have been introduced, but the required improvement hasn't materialised. Why? Because without the co-operation of the players, no scheme can succeed however well planned, well organised and well intentioned.

Why don't the players toe the line? It can all be explained by their earnings' structure — money is still the greatest motivator. In Hungary, as indeed in all other 'socialist' countries, every sportsman, including the footballers, have a civilian job. They are called "sports-jobs", meaning that their wages are paid for the players' contribution to football and for nothing else! In other words, they are *not expected* to put-in even a token appearance at their work places, their money is sent to them regularly.

Besides these "gifts", the players are, of course, amply rewarded for their football by the clubs. There is a proper (?) structure of salaries, bonuses, appearance money, etc — but no written professional contracts.

Now, although the "sports jobs" loot is not much, it is sufficient to live on. Consequently, if a players' character is not strong enough to withstand the usual temptations of booze, birds and late nights, and is being disciplined by his club, he can still manage — financially — on his monthly "civilian" earnings.

This system effectively encourages the scroungers, takes away the one telling weapon from the managers, and ensures permanent mediocrity. I do not have to describe the advantages (and, admittedly, the drawbacks) of open professionalism, but it is no accident that all leading footballing countries operate a full-pro. system.

Obviously, there are other factors — love of country and club, self-esteem, pride in achievement, etc. — which should motivate players, and indeed do motivate quite a number of Hungarians — but, unfortunately, too many of the truly talented footballers choose the easy way out. As it was expected, 'the new regime' at the F.A. did introduce a vast number of reforms, but I repeat, these measures will only succeed if they are allied to a drastic change of attitude.

As I anticipated in this column a short time ago, the most important move by the F.A. was the restoration of the autonomy of the clubs.

President of the Coaching Committee, Andras Zalka said: "We shall maintain all the good things from the past and discard the bad ones. Prescribed and compulsory training programmes for the clubs are not necessary. We shall give a more free hand to the coaches, with the proviso that their work will be scrutinised on a regualr basis by using various tests. But I emphasise that greater freedom means greater responsibility. In future, coaches won't be able to blame the fixed training programme for their own shortcomings. And we must have a complete reversal of attitudes on the part of staff and players — the championship must be seen to be conducted fairly, without corruption, behaviour off the field must be impeccable".

Zalka and the coaches also have a "Council of Elder Statesmen" to help them. Such ex-greats as Gustav Sebes, Marton Bukovi and 'Csikar' Sandor have been recruited, and will advise the various committees.

There are also significant changes in refereeing. The Hungarians will no longer follow their own special rulebook, but they will fall in step with the rest of Europe. Players will no longer be sent-off for a simple dissent or for a tactical foul. This might be considered regrettable, but it is wiser to follow UEFA directives than to be at a disadvantage in international combat.

From next season, yellow and red cards will be re-introduced, and automatic suspensions will follow two cautions or just one sending-off offence.

Plans for the coming season are well under way, and the national side will open its programme with a friendly against E. Germany in Budapest. On April 4, Hungary will play Poland, then there will be two European Championship games against Greece and the USSR. But matches involving the Olympic Squad seem to be more important, since with four points dropped, the Hungarians are unlikely to qualify for the European Finals in Italy.

Dr. Karoly Lakat is in charge of the Olympic squad, and in his preparations for the home and away tie v Rumania, he cast his net pretty wide. He selected no less than 57 (!) players for the various training matches, which included two games against Eintracht Frankfurt. (Both ended in 2-0 wins for the Magyars!)

Hungarian News by Leslie Vernon

Petar at the Bridge

More English clubs are looking abroad for talent. Relegation threatened Chelsea aimed to boost their First Division survival chances by signing Petar Borota from Partizan Belgrade.

Borota made his début against Liverpool and helped his new side to a commendable goalless draw with saves like this from Kenny Dalglish. Unfortunately Petar was injured one week later when Chelsea were beaten at Norwich but the cut head he sustained is unlikely to keep this larger than life character out of action for too long.

Sponsorship bid to save bankruptcy

reports Arthur Rotmil

FOOTBALL in Holland is facing its gravest financial crisis since the introduction of professionalism in 1954. The drop in attendances at League matches has forced even the biggest clubs to tighten their belts and to sell some of the best players abroad in order to pay the high salaries of the remaining staff.

But the weakening of playing strength has not surprisingly caused a further slump in interest and now the vicious circle appears to have accelerated to the point where many clubs are on the verge of bankruptcy.

The government has been asked to step in and advance funds to help those in greatest need, but the various proposals have so far met with cool reception. Instead, the 37 professional clubs have decided to raise capital independently by negotiating with sponsors willing to pay for advertising on players' jerseys. This move has now unleashed the biggest controversy in this country for decades, for even the Football Federation (KNVB) are opposing this commercial venture and would prefer initially to accept a grant from the government.

An important factor is also the resistance of the State Television Service (NOS), which threatens not to show any matches featuring players wearing advertisements. A final decision on whether the clubs can go ahead with their proposed sponsorship will be taken by the KNVB in May.

What the government has suggested is partly amounting to State control over the existence and development of League football in Holland. The first plan unfolded by the Ministry for Culture and Sport, to cut the number of professional clubs from 37 to 22 was rejected. Then a second commission put forward a blue-print for helping the League's full complement but made these conditions:

1. All championship games should be staged on Saturdays (instead of on Sundays, as at present).
2. Those clubs who do not have floodlights must install them as soon as possible.
3. The number of professional, or contracted players must be reduced to 20, per club.
4. The full time professionals should not be active longer than 40 hours (!) per week, whilst part-timers are limited to 20 hours.
5. Manager/coaches should be engaged for a minimum period of 3 years.
6. Any agreement concerning transfer fees and salaries should always be made between club and player.
7. The clubs should no longer remain just sports organisations, but should turn themselves into Limited Companies.
8. All salaries should be limited to a figure suggested by the government.
9. The financial affairs of every club are to be supervised by an independent accountancy institution.

If these proposals are accepted, then the government will grant the League a subsidy of £1.75 million towards the erection of floodlights at remaining grounds. In addition, £630,000 to be spent on safety precautions in the stadiums. Over the next four years the State will provide the sums of £3.5 million, £2.6m. and finally £2m. to help all clubs.

Migration danger

These strict conditions made on a take-it-or-leave basis have not gone down well, especially with the bigger clubs. They fear particularly the clause which limits the players' earnings, for it can only lead to even faster migration of stars to richer clubs abroad.

"If we accept the plan, then we shall be playing in the future just with paid amateurs. The fans will ignore the domestic football and nothing will change our plight," claims Arie Lighthart, the chairman of 'AZ'67' Alkmaar. "Those clubs who have run their affairs on a business-like basis will now be punished with the rest. Everybody is expected to take a step back. Football will become a nationalised industry and that can't be good," he added.

The government commission thinks that in eight, or nine years, it will not be necessary to support soccer from tax payers money because the clubs should by then be solvent. But most club officials express doubts, if such a happy state of affairs could ever by achieved.

Nonetheless, the majority is afraid of turning the government down flat. Only two clauses were originally rejected outright: the playing on Saturdays, because shops are open and draw away customers, and the engagement of coaches for three years, which is seen as direct interference into internal club affairs.

There is of course the possibility that the big clubs might want to go it alone. Alkmaar have already suggested that the ten leading clubs form a "Super League" and play each other four times, like in Austria and Scotland.

Now, the clubs have taken the initiative in another direction. Following the successful example in neighbouring countries, like France, Belgium and West Germany, the Dutch too, want to introduce sponsorship with ads for products, or manufacturer's name on the players' shirts. This is planned to start on July 1, against the advice of the professional football department within the KNVB. As a first reaction the chief of this section and KNVB's vice-president, Jacques Hogewoning, resigned, together with four other members of the board.

Television backing

They knew that the launching of commercial sponsorship will mean no help from the government. This was confirmed after a stormy meeting of the Dutch parliament by Gerard Wallis de Vries, the State Secretary for Culture and Sport, who devised the original financial aid scheme. The government representatives are of course supported by the State Television Broadcasting Company who threaten to boycott football next season.

Several clubs are now apparently ready to rethink their attitude and enter into fresh negotiations. Nevertheless, they are still keeping July 1 as the pencilled-in date for the start of the commercial undertaking. One club, incidentally, has been advertising inadvertently for years: Roda JC Kerkrade, whose players are wearing the club's name in giant letters on their shirts. But Rodas is also the name of a famous textile works.

Meanwhile, the sell out of footballers abroad has continued. This season five well known players have gone, beginning with centre forward Ruud Geels, four years running leading goalscorer in the Dutch First Division (Eredivisie), who left Ajax Amsterdam for Anderlecht in Belgium. Defender Martin Jol quit FC Den Haag for Bayern Munich; centre back Wim Rijsbergen moved from Feyenoord to Bastia (France), while the midfielders Arnold Muhren and Frans Thijssen crossed over from Twente Enschede to Ipswich Town.

Among the internal transfers the most important was that of international defender Piet Wildschut (21) who left Twente for champions PSV Eindhoven.

Happier Dutch days with the World Cup runners-up at the Dutch Royal Palace. Goalkeeper Jan Jongbloed is on the receiving end from this shot by Prince Willem Alexander.

World Soccer Diary... World Soccer Diary...

Beware! All may not be as it seems

ENGLISH football had better beware — in the rush to join the bandwagon collecting foreign players more than one club is going to catch a cold (writes KEIR RADNEDGE).

It's not necessarily that the clubs don't do thier homework on the trialists among their ranks. As any Spanish official experienced in the ways of the international market will tell you — there are a lot of 'business advisers' around all too ready to spin a yarn.

Three striking examples of the dangers have recently arisen.

First, let's deal with the two Peruvians, Juan Carlos Oblitas and Percy Rojas. Both flew to Britain for a trial with Brighton with the blessing of their club, Sporting Cristal of Lima. They're both internationals and both appeared in the World Cup.

It might be a little too much however to describe them as World Cup *stars*. Rojas, after all, played three times as a substitute and on the one occasion he did play from the start on the left side in midfield, it was in Peru's 6-0 surrender against Argentina. Hardly a starring role.

Oblitas appeared from the start in all Peru's games and played well enough. But ... it was Peru's other winger, Juan Jose Munante, who earned most of the praise to be spared on the wings.

Further, when news of their departure for England broke in Lima, the players were touted as being 26 in the case of Oblitas and 27 for Rojas. In fact Oblitas was 28 a few days before boarding his flight, and later this year Rojas will be 30.

Their chances in England, should they stay? Well, Oblitas has played abroad twice before in his career. First he went to Elche in Spain in 1974. But after only a few weeks he argued with manager Pipo Rossi, grew homesick, and returned to Lima. Later he spent a short spell in Mexico with Veracruz.

Rojas played two years in Argentina with Independiente. But the only Peruvian I can remember making a successful career in Europe was goal-poacher supreme Juan Seminario with Barcelona and Zaragoza in the early 1960s.

Even the inventive Teofilo Cubillas achieved little consistency in his spells with Basel and Porto. And Hugo Sotil, after one outstanding year with Barcelona, found the bright lights more attractive than the football.

So much for the Peruvians. What about the French connection?

One London national newspaper learned from a source close to Second Division Brighton that the club were giving a trial to one Christoph Didea — one of the most outstanding young defenders in France, a sweeper with champions Monaco, and who was thought to be a bargain with a £150,000 price tag on his head.

I was asked what I knew about him — how many caps had he won? The name didn't ring a bell. So I checked up. It turned out that his name was in fact Didier Christophe! That he was 22, had never kicked a ball in anger for the senior Monaco team, played for their reserves in the third division and was in truth a midfield player not a sweeper!

A day or two later the same newspaper asked me what I could tell them about Guy Lacombe, who was apparently training with West Ham. This was the World Cup centre forward, wasn't he, the man who put a goal past Italy in the first minute of their match in Argentina?

No, he wasn't. That was Bernard Lacombe, formerly of Lyon, now with Saint-Etienne. This Lacombe is Guy, of Nantes, a reserve forward who has scored just six goals in 32 league games in the three years since they picked him up from third division Albi, his home-town team.

There is, of course, one aspect of going continental which appeals to clubs — the comparatively low prices. While Ipswich spent £200,000 on Twente Enschede's Frans Thijssen, West Ham were about to pay an inflated £565,000 for QPR's fourth-in-line England goalkeeper, Phil Parkes.

On second thoughts, at current prices perhaps the gamble on foreign nonentities is worthwhile!

Brighton's Teddy Maybank and Crystal Palace goalkeeper John Burridge — Brighton are the club with the Peruvian connection.

Kempes keeps on winning

MARIO KEMPES is the not surprising choice as South America's Footballer of the Year — the first time in eight years of the poll conducted by *El Mundo* of Caracas that the prize has gone to a European-based player.

Kempes's World Cup achievements — top scorer, best player award, hitting two goals in the final — were the obvious reasons.

The Valencia striker, who is just now starting to show something like his old form in the Spanish League after a long hard winter, totalled 78 points. Second was Argentine colleague Ubaldo Fillol, with 59, and third the Brazil midfielder Dirceu, on 48.

Yet Dirceu, like Kempes, has been having a tough time since the World Cup. Transferred from Vasco da Gama to America FC of Mexico, he couldn't get on with coach Raul Cardenas. After refusing to play in a game against Monterrey he was suspended, later earning a recall only as a striker.

Talking about Brazilians, it's interesting to note that Pele got two votes, thanks to the Colombian in the poll, Francisco Osaba of the EFE agency. What for? Search me.

1978 VOTING: 1. Mario Kempes (Valencia, Argentina) 78 pts; 2. Ubaldo Fillol (River Plate, Argentina) 59; 3. Dirceu (America FC, Brazil) 48; 4. Daniel Passarella (River Plate, Argentina), 29; 5. Teofilo Cubillas (Alianza, Peru) 19; 6. Elias Figueroa (Palestino, Chile) 7; 7. Ricardo Bochini (Independiente, Argentina) 6; 8. Cesar Cueto (Alianza, Peru) 5; 9. Roberto Rivelino (El-Helal, Brazil) 4; 10. Osvaldo Ardiles (Tottenham, Argentina) 3; 11. Emerson Leao (Vasco, Brazil) Pele (Brazil, retired), Zico (Flamengo, Brazil) 2; 14. Alfredo De Los Santos (River Plate BA, Uruguay), Leopolda Luque (River Plate, Argentina), Alberto Tarantini (Birmingham, Argentina), Willington Ortiz (Millionarios, Colombia), Juan Ramon Carrasco (River Plate BA,

World Soccer Diary... World Soccer Diary...

The world's most expensive goalkeeper, Phil Parkes, is welcomed by a section of the West Ham crowd.

Uruguay), Fernando Morena (Penarol, Uruguay) 1.

UEFA block Madrid plan

REAL MADRID'S plan for a Santiago Bernabeu tournament involving themselves and three other former Champions' Cup-winners in a home and away league tournament this spring has foundered — for the time being.

It wasn't a question of difficulties thrown up by any of the other clubs, Bayern Munich, Milan and Ajax, but instead by UEFA.

With the tournament, in honour of the late Madrid president, due to start early in March, president Luis De Carlos and director Antonio Calderon travelled to Berne to try to obtain clearance from UEFA secretary Hans Bangerter.

All to no avail.

Despite the fact that all four clubs are out of Europe, UEFA objected to the proposal that matches should be played on European competition dates. They also refused to negotiate on an alternative solution that the tournament could take place over two years.

Why the opposition? I understand the key lies in a sentance from De Carlos, that "UEFA don't like the idea of anyone running a tournament on a league basis."

The obvious fear is that a European league might at last be created without UEFA control. Good luck to Madrid or anyone else who tries it, I say. UEFA might remember that 25 years ago it was thanks to the clubs, not to officialdom, that the money-spinning Champions' Cup began.

UEFA have been singularly silent on suggestions that they should take the lead in launching a European League. Why then, should they object if someone else wants to try?

Ramsey, Menotti – A certain irony

THE COMINGS and goings of football managers will keep sports journalists writing for a long time yet.

But how ironic the simultaneous news recently concerning two of the most famous bosses in world soccer — Sir Alf Ramsey and Cesar Menotti.

While Menotti, announced that he would stay as Argentina boss up to the 1982 World Cup Finals in Spain, Sir Alf was slipping off to size up a £50,000-a-year tax-free offer to take over Kuwait.

Menotti, clearly, was glad to stay. That had been obvious as far back as when he agreed to take the Argentine juniors through the South American youth championship and on to Japan for the world tournament this summer, assuming they qualified (which they did).

The Argentine FA professed themselves appalled at his demands for a £60,000 signing-on fee for a new contract and £5,000 a month, but fans, the Press and the big clubs soon made it clear that it would be cheap at the price to keep the man who, more than anyone else, has done so much to restore the pride and prestige of their football.

Those earnings figures of Menotti are a far cry from the £7,000 a year (!) Sir Alf finished on at the end of his 11-year reign in 1974.

When Sir Alf was dismissed by England he took up a position with the sports goods firm, Gola. Later he joined the Birmingham board and became consultant-manager for a while after the dismissal of Willie Bell last season. He didn't last long. In March of last year he stepped down after a row over Trevor Francis.

"I recommended he be allowed to leave. The board agreed, then changed their minds," he said blandly. Sir Alf had clearly been ahead of his time . . .

Names in the news . . .

. . . ANGEL LABRUNA is, contrary to all speculation, staying on as manager of River Plate . . . DANIEL PASSARELLA'S hopes of a quick move to Washington Diplomats were upset by various hitches in the transfer from River Plate . . . JORGE RIBOLZI, one-time Boca favourite, is back with Belgrano after an unhappy few months in Spain with Coruna . . . DIEGO MARADONA, Argentine prodigy who is subject to a £750,000 Barcelona bid, scored four times as Argentinos Juniors won a friendly in Colombia against Cucuta . . . GERHARDT HANAPPI, one of Austria and Rapid Vienna's greatest players, has just celebrated his 50th birthday . . . MILAN MANDARIC, American with a lot of money in Washington Diplomats, is considering taking a financial interest in Belgium's bottom-of-the-table FC Liege . . . MARIO TRAVAGLINI faces dismissal as Brazil youth coach after the failure to qualify for the world junior finals in Japan . . . OSCAR FABIANI, Chile's top-scorer with Palestino, has turned down a move to River Plate . . . PEDRO GARCIA, Chile's youth coach, was jailed along with 13 of his players after allegations of passport forgeries allowing over age players to appear in the South American youth championship . . . CARLOS BILARDO, who guided Deportivo Cali to the Libertadores final, has returned to Argentina with San Lorenzo . . . SEPP PIONTEK, new Denmark boss, says his main aim is to beat England at Wembley in the European championship . . . DEZSO BUNDSZAK, former Hungary wing half, is new national team boss of Egypt . . . BOSCO JANKOVIC, a 28-year-old Yugoslav forward, has joined Middlesbrough for £100,000 . . . DANIEL JEANDUPEUX, Swiss international forward, out for almost a year with a broken leg, is poised to return with Bordeaux . . . JAN VAN BEVEREN, Holland's best goalkeeper, can go, say PSV Eindhoven . . . VACLAV JEZEK has signed to stay two more years as boss of Feyenoord . . . AAD MANSVELD, Feyenoord's sweeper, is returning to his old club, Den Haag . . . AVI COHEN impressed a lot of people during his flying visit from Israel for a week's trial in Liverpool . . . LOUIS PILOT, boss of Luxembourg, had a lucky escape from a car crash . . . ANDZREJ SZARMACH, Polish World Cup star, wants to leave Stal Mielec . . . ANDREZEJ IWAN faces a stiff ban after being involved in a brawl in a bar.

WEST GERMANY by Arthur Rotmil

Money worry after ice-up

THE EXCEPTIONALLY severe winter has disrupted the programme in the Bundesliga to such an extent that the Football Federation (DFB) changed the fixture list until March 10, to allow those earlier postponed matches to be played off first. But further cancellations only increased the chaos.

Some clubs arranged visits abroad to keep their footballers in trim. The champions 1.FC Köln (Cologne) spent a week in Majorca and returned so refreshed that they promptly beat Eintracht Brunswick 3-1 and Darmstadt 1-0 to move up the table. The lack of income at the gate has plunged several clubs into dire financial straits.

Already threatened with the loss of their licence are Hertha Berlin, whose debts are estimated at £750,000. The club is being forced to sell players in order to balance the books, before the announced inspection by the DFB. Striker Karl-Heinz Granitza went to the American club Chicago Stings for £150,000. Now there is talk that the brilliant goalkeeper Norbert Nigbur may also be leaving for £200,000.

An appeal has gone out to the Berlin fans for voluntary subscriptions, while the players' salaries have been cut to save expenditure. 17 other clubs, all from the Second Bundesliga, are also heavily in debt (totalling £7 million) especially Kickers Offenbach and Preussen Münster, who are equally £750,000 in the red.

Under pressure

On the managerial front twelve coaches in the First Bundesliga, whose contracts expire at the end of the season, are certain to be put under pressure by those clubs whose finances are shaky. Only six managers have contracts which run till 1980, among them of the leading clubs Hennes Weisweiler (Cologne), Karl-Heinz Feldkamp (Kaiserslautern) and Branko Zebec (Hamburger SV).

West Germany's "Manager of the Year" is Jürgen Sundermann from VfB Stuttgart. In a poll conducted by the country's leading sports paper 'Kicker-Sportmagazin' Sundermann was voted tops ahead of Udo Lätteck (Borussia Mönchengladbach), Branko Zebec (Hamburger SV), Karl-Heinz Feldkamp (Kaiserslautern) and Hennes Weisweiler (Cologne).

A famous name will appear next season among those of general club managers — that of Uli Hoeness (27) member of the World Cup winning team in 1974, recently loaned by Bayern Munich to the 1.FC Nürnberg. Hoeness is returning to Munich to take over the position vacated by Robert Schwan two years ago, who left, who left with Franz Beckenbauer for America.

Hoeness should also bring much needed peace within the Bayern ranks shaken lately by internal squabbles. Following the so-called "sick leave" given to team manager Guyla Lorant (who has since been released from his contract), his duties were assumed by his assistant and Hungarian compatriot Pal Csernai. But some players, including the great Gerd Müller, stayed loyal to Lorant and thus clashed with the caretaker. Müller, who had already announced his retirement at the end of the season, walked out in mid-February after a row with Csernai. This followed Müller's substitution, for the first time in his career, during the Bundesliga match v Eintracht Frankfurt. Müller claimed that the team chief turned against him because of his support for Lorant.

Sepp Maier — the balloon nearly went up for him and the national team in Malta.

Eventually, after a three-hour meeting, the board of Bayern Munich granted Müller's wish and he has been formally released from his contract. He will not play for Bayern again, but the club are certain to arrange a testimonial match, jointly for him and for Beckenbauer.

Müller was linked with American clubs who reportedly have made him fabulous offers, but according to his wife he is not keen on moving overseas. The distances in the States could also frighten him off, for he notoriously hates flying!

Bayern are quite happy having signed a ready made replacement for Müller: Dieter Hoeness (26) the younger brother of Uli, is all set to join them from VfB Stuttgart. Hoeness has a clause in his contract which fixes his transfer fee as low as 175,000 D. Marks (only £44,000). This remarkable agreement was worked out for him by his businesslike brother — the next general manager of Bayern. The Munich club have made Dieter a financial offer which Stuttgart could not match. It is reckoned that he earned last season £68,000 in Stuttgart, but that he will probably get about £100,000 in Munich!

Strengthened grip

In the championship, after these decimated rounds, the 1.FC Kaiserslautern strengthened their grip on the leadership, while Hamburger SV, everybody's favourite for the title, slumped and lost its advantage over the pace makers and VfB Stuttgart. Kaiserslautern have just signed a new contract with a fresh sponsor (a company making a type of prefab homes) which will bring the club for advertising on jerseys £225,000 over two years. This is 50 per cent more than the club got from their old contract and clearly due to the club's exalted League position.

A new rule in West German football which is long overdue, will be introduced next season. Players cautioned by the referee will face disciplinary action, after a certain number of yellow cards. This move follows the increasing demands by the 36 Bundesliga referees, who for some time have been complaining that players don't mind being warned because there is no punishment to be feared. A suspension after, say, three cautions might well make them aware of the consequences.

A controversial disciplinary precedence was created in the case of Hamburg's midfielder Felix Magath. In the match against Borussia Mönchengladbach this player had hit his opponent Wohlers in the face, for which the Gladbacher retaliated and was sent off. But Magath's offence escaped the referee's attention. Later, however, the incident was shown on television and subsequently the Football Federation's chief "prosecutor" Hans Kindermann used the film as evidence of Magath's "crime" and though he wasn't punished during the match, the Hamburg player was found guilty and suspended!

Film justice

Herr Kindermann now warns that he will use films on future occasions to bring the offenders to justice and he seems determined to stamp out bad behaviour on the field, even if referees don't take action!

The national team made a disappointing start to their European Championship campaign when they were held to a goalless draw by Malta at La Valetta. But any criticism of this performance must be measured against the circumstances surrounding this on paper sensational result.

On the grassless, concrete-hard pitch and with a hurricane wind blowing, normal football was virtually impossible. The Germans dominated the match to such an extent that they brought on in later stages two more forwards, but though they created numerous chances, they were finally thwarted by the conditions. On top of that, Malta's goalkeeper Scibberas performed heroics and was the hero of the day. The Maltese even managed to scare the famous Sepp Maier in the German goal, when a 30-yard free kick was propelled by the wind with such force that Maier, standing behind his goal line, was only able to push out the ball with a last despairing effort.

Germany's national manager Jupp Derwall said afterwards: "We had enough chances to win. But in such catastrophic conditions any team would have been put out of its stride. In this day and age, I feel the playing facilities offered in Malta are quite inadmissible. But our group rivals Wales and Turkey have also got to play here and they may not win either."

Brian Glanville's Soccer Notebook

Derek Richardson, Queens Park Rangers goalkeeping replacement for Phil Parkes, tangles with Southampton's Phil Boyer while Rangers defenders Ian Gillard and Glenn Roeder watch anxiously.

GREGORY RESISTS RANGERS SPITE

JIM GREGORY has expressed his intention of remaining chairman of Queens Park Rangers, and I am pleased. He has made his mistakes, but it is undeniable that under his aegis QPR have had more success than at any time in their history, while I would hate to see him driven out by the hateful barrackers of Loftus Road. QPR surely has one of the most spiteful grandstand crowds in the country. The viciousness of the abuse of players, let alone chairman and manager, sometimes reaches almost a psychopathic frenzy. I remember one charmer leaning over the parapet and screaming at a QPR player: "I hope you get cancer!"

The transfer of Phil Parkes to West Ham United for £500,000 was opposed by the competent and amiable Steve Burtenshaw, QPR's good-tempered manager and violently resented by the fans, but I wonder whether Gregory wasn't right. Some of these fans have complained that QPR are forever selling key players to jeopardise and undermine their possibilities, citing Rodney Marsh as one of them; but this, in the event, was a transfer from which QPR gained a great deal more than Manchester City.

In this case, too, Gregory overruled his manager, in the person of Gordon Jago. It seemed a matter only of hours between Jago's public avowal that Marsh was going over his dead body — or its moral equivalent — and the centre-forward's transfer to Main Road. Malcolm Allison's misguided assumption of Marsh, with the concomitant exclusion of Mike Doyle, threw City's team wholly out of gear and arguably lost City the Championship. QPR by contrast shrewdly bought Stan Bowles — an excellent piece of work by Jago — and went from strength to strength.

I much admire Phil Parkes as a goalkeeper and like him greatly as a man, but I tend to agree with my friend and former SUNDAY TIMES colleague, Brian James, who wrote in the DAILY MAIL that Hammers were daft to pay so much money for him. The following Saturday, I went to Loftus Road where the estimable Derek Richardson played a faultless game in goal for QPR against Southampton, even though the Saints won by a goal headed by Nick Holmes. Richardson had been valued, himself, at £150,000, and though he may not be a Parkes, he is certainly a goalkeeper of presence, authority, agility and courage. I don't think Gregory has been so stupid.

Rangers' perennial problem is, like Nottingham Forest's, that they simply don't get decent support, even when they are doing well. True, QPR would be overjoyed by the support which Clough finds so inadequate, but all is relative, and both clubs might legitimately envy their American equivalents who, in parallel circumstances, would simply up stakes and move across that massive continent.

★

ITALY'S impressive 3-0 victory over Holland at San Siro has given Enzo Bearzotma welcome breathing space, and extinguished his foe, Italo Allodi; for the moment. Bearzot was proved abundantly right in resisting pressure to throw out his Juventus bloc, though he did put the ineffable Romeo Benetti on the bench in favour of Oriali, of Inter, and gave a gap to the young Milan stopper, Collovati. But it must have been *una bella soddisfazione*, otherwise a great satisfaction, to him to see Roberto Bettega and Franco Causio return so magisterially to form. Bettega's goal was taken with enormous aplomb, while I understand he won practically every ball in the air against Erny Brandts, whether in defence or attack: that same Erny Brandts who elicited the praise of Rangers' John Greig at Ibrox earlier this season, after *he* had won every single high ball in the PSV box against the Glaswegians.

At present, it seems unlikely that Bearzot will want to continue beyond the Nations Cup of 1980 — English clubs please note — but he has unquestionably given the Italians their best team for years, despite the jackals lurking in the rear. One feature of the Dutch game which no doubt pleased him was the improved form of Giancarlo Antognoni, of Fiorentina, an inside-forward of enormous gifts who disappointed in the World Cup — injury has something to do with that — and got himself sent off in Bratislava with a damnably stupid retaliatory foul.

★

THE Common Market has had two fingers — or their equivalent — put up against it by Italian football, and at the time of writing, appears once more to be suffering in silence.

As we all know, it was a decision provoked by a minor Italian club in the EEC Court which opened the way for foreign players in the Football League. The Court laid down that any national of an EEC country was eligible to play football professionally in any other country. The Football League clubs threw in the towel, and actually opened the competition to foreign players from outside the EEC, too. Hence the Ardiles, Villas, Tarantinis, Deynas and Golacs, to name but a few. The Italians, who after all signed the Treaty of Rome while Britain was hestitating on the sidelines, have again put off the evil day of foreign influx with a Government decision that soccer players are not "dependant" workers. So, while the Football League has scurried to fall into line with the EEC decision, Italy has again procrastinated. *Bella roba* — great stuff — as they would say, ironically, themselves.

Perseverance pays off. Eric Gates scores a 'little goal' for Ipswich in the Cup Winners Cup against Barcelona.

LITTLE GOALS!

CERTAIN players clearly have what the Germans call 'tor instinct' and in recent years no one has personified this more than Gerd Muller. Considering the superior defensive organisation that has developed during Muller's years his record is phenomenal, but in an interview two or three years ago, he told me that a lot of his goals were what Helmut Schon called Muller's little goals.

Little goals are those popped in from around the six yard area, but they all count.

A shot hits the post and rebounds into play — and there was Muller popping in the rebound. Someone shoots, and the goalkeeper stops the shot but cannot hold the ball, and as it runs loose, Muller pounced — and in went another 'little' one.

Same qualities

This knack of scoring goals is largely a question of being in the right place at the right time, and in my experience of observing the game, and in coaching, it is my view that players like Muller and Jimmy Greaves, who showed many of the same qualities that Muller had, are born, not made.

Certainly the instinct for the goal chance is something that players are born with, but through good coaching, as I shall explain in a moment, every player can be improved to some extent.

I say to some extent, because I know from experience, that with some players, no matter how much you make them practice shooting, they seldom do it in matches, and it is the inclination to shoot that they lack. In particular, this applies to midfield players who may well have an all-out attacking instinct and style, but are missing the inclination to shoot.

Bryan Robson is one of the few players of recent years in English football who appears to have this goal instinct to a marked degree. Throughout his career with Newcastle, West Ham and Sunderland he has been a frequent scorer, but Robson also lets fly with shots from up to 25 yards.

And though I have seen Gerd Muller play many times, I have never seen him hit a ball really hard from long distances, and he more than anyone else I can think of, persomfies this ability to get 'little goals'.

Of course there are players every week who score from rebounds, but Muller did it so often, so regularly, that it became his trade mark, and there can be no doubt that in the question of *instinct* for the half chance, he was specially blessed at birth.

Ideally, anyone receiving the ball inside the penalty area should automatically let fly at goal — unless there is a better placed colleague to pass to. But very many otherwise good players lack the inclination to shoot, except in open goal situations, and they do not seem to want to accept the responsibility of taking a shot, preferring to pass rather than have a go themselves.

As an admitted idealist, a lot of my coaching has been aimed at producing good football, and that of course means attacking football. But despite my idealism, I have always been realistic enough to recognise that the most beautiful approach play MUST be matched by equally good finishing and I have never neglected to coach in this respect.

All good coaches will agree that players, basically, are creatures of habit, and if, as I believe, certain players are born with the natural desire to score goals — and no coach can give this to a player that does not have it, I still believe that players can be coached into the habit of shooting *to some degree*. Thus at the beginning, and at the end of ALL my training sessions, we always had a spell of shooting practice.

When we had matches in training I made an extra rule that anyone receiving the ball inside the penalty area who did not shoot, had a free kick awarded against him, and this allied with my first time shooting practices did develop the shooting habit a bit.

But I began with reference to Gerd Muller and his little goals, and now I return to this theme with the punch line.

Ideally, whenever *anyone* shoots, all the strikers should follow-up the shot looking for the half chance that comes back off the woodwork, or crops up when the goalkeeper fails to hold the ball. But how to get the players to do this? I advocate an idea I picked up from watching the training at West Ham, and never having seen it anywhere else I can only assume that it was developed by Ron Greenwood who was in charge at West Ham at that time.

Two-goal game

Very simply, in practice matches, and even five a sides in a gym, make a rule that goals only count if the attacking team scores TWICE!

On a pitch this means using shooting boards instead of goals, which I know the majority of clubs do not have, but I throw it in in case they are available. But the vast majority of clubs train in a gym, and by this I mean the countless thousands of amateur clubs all round the world who do not own their own grounds.

When training in a gymnasium it is common practice to turn a bench on its side at each end, and use them for goals.

Now, someone shoots and scores — but the goal does not count unless someone follows up and pops in the rebound as it comes back off the bench or the shooting board. This is not only good practice for attacking players but good for defenders too, for it makes them more

Now one against Ipswich, Kenny Dalglish, master of the turn and shot fires Liverpool into the FA Cup semi-finals.

Goalscorers are born, but coaching can help. ERIC BATTY looks at ways of improving finishing

alert, and just as it should develop in every attacking player, the habit of following-up every shot, so it should improve the defender's play so that he improves in the matter of clearing shots that rebound off the woodwork, are not held cleanly by the goalkeeper or bounce off another defender.

Following up a shot is a question of getting into the habit, and this two goals rule will develop in everyone the necessary habit. It will not come easily to *some* players but after months, perhaps years of practice it will come, and this means beginning with very young players.

Like all good habits, a coach cannot start working with players too early in their playing lives. But even with veteran players the score-twice rule in training can improve them a bit.

Looking for goals

One of the nicest things that happened to me in my career as a coach came after my very last game before I gave up coaching a club on a regular basis. That last match was a Cup Final at the end of the season and we played very well and won 4-0. After it was all over and the Cup was being presented by someone's wife, the Chairman of the League approached me and said: "You know the thing I liked about your team was that you were still looking for goals in the last five minutes."

Although I took this, as it was intended, as a compliment, it is in fact an indictment of the game as a whole, which stems from professional attitudes. Being 4-0 up with only a short time remaining for play, many managers and coaches would go defensive, or at least try to freeze the game and keep play in midfield. But my basic philosophy has always been to go looking for goals every chance we get. What this means in hard, practical terms if very simply that every time one of my players gets the ball, we try to set up and attack and score. And when we attack, we throw forward the full backs as well as the midfield players. But this is no good unless you get goals.

So the two-goals rule in training games will help to produce more goals, but this, important though it is, is only one way in which goal-scoring can be increased.

The important thing to remember is that the players must acquire the habit of shooting and I worked at a series of little practices to this end.

Very often in matches, the ball comes to a player in or around the penalty area in such a way that he cannot shoot first time.

Now first time shooting is desirable because it is more likely to catch the goalkeeper out, but the really essential point is not merely to shoot first time. Underlying this expression is the creed: to shoot at the earliest possible moment.

So if the ball comes at a difficult angle or a difficult height, or if the player has his back to goal, it is impossible to shoot first time. Here is what I call the second touch shot, which still fulfils the maxim 'shoot as early as possible'.

To develop this habit, I paired the players off around the edge of the penalty area. Server and shooter change over of course and the players also change positions so they practice shooting with either foot.

Serving a high ball from the goal line. A throws to B who jumps, takes the ball on his chest and volleys at goal. Repeat every skill ten times before changing roles.

Now serve from one side, then the other. A throws and B jumps, takes the ball on his chest and shoots. Players could not possibly get their feet up to chest height and shoot first time, so this is the most practical solution.

Now on the face of the penalty area, 18 yards from goal, the ball is served along the ground first to the right foot, then later to the left foot with the shooting player having his back to goal.

Player B flicks the ball up with his right foot so that he gets the ball up above waist height, pivots and volleys on the turn after adjusting his feet, with his left foot. Then when the ball is served along the ground to the left foot he uses that to flick the ball up and volleys with his right foot on the turn.

Now another skill. The ball is served by throwing it down with power at the ground in front of the player with his back to goal so that the ball bounces up around thigh height, first to one thigh, then the other. Now player B has to flick the ball with his thigh, he volleys at goal with his left foot and vice versa.

Pivoting quickly

Another nice little skill practice is to serve the ball on to the chest of a player with his back to goal so that he has to use his chest to turn the ball 'round the corner' and pivoting quickly, volley on the turn, first turning the ball off his chest to the right (volley with his left foot), then turning the ball off his chest to the left, and volley with his right foot.

In every practice, volleying is preferable to the half volley because the former gets the shot in quicker, thus giving defenders less time to block it. It is a fact that goalkeepers are born, but by good coaching many more players can develop good shooting habits. I know it takes time and the coach must persevere, but nothing in life is easy. Be patient and work at it. I got very good results from the practices described, and once players get a goal from these situations at which they have been coached, they become even keener to practice because one fact of football life is that everyone, even defenders, dreams of scoring goals and most of all getting the winning goal in a Cup Final.

TOP TEAMS GO OUT!

TOP teams Trabzonspor, Galatasary, Beskitas and Diyarbakirspor have all been eliminated from the Turkish Cup. The semi-finalists are Fenerbahce of Istanbul, Kocaelispor from the Second Division, Kirrikkalespor, who are bottom of the First Division, and Altay of Izmir.

TURKISH NEWS by HASAN CEMALI

Kirikkelespor pulled off the big second round surprise when they beat Galatasary on the away goals rule after the aggregate score had finished 1-1. Then Kirikkalespor continued their run of surprises by knocking out the league's strong side Diyarbakirspor by 9-8 on penalties. With Diyarbakirspor already ending the hopes of cup favourites Trabzonspor, 6-5 on penalties after a 1-1 aggregate score, the shocks have come thick and fast.

Fenerbahce now look to be hot favourites after beating fellow Istanbul side Besiktas 1-0 in the quarter final. International striker Cemil recovered from a knee injury to play his part in this victory and laid on the chance for Tuna to score the only goal of the game.

Kocaelispor earned their semi-final place by beating Buraspor 1-0 while Altay were another 1-0 winner against Black Sea side Orduspor.

Scottish side St. Mirren have made a 50,000 dollar bid for Fenerbahce player Sevki. Rangers had shown an interest in Sevki earlier in the season but could not agree on a transfer fee.

Sevki started his career with Eskisehirspor but had his best days when English manager Brian Birch took him to Galatasary. Under the guidance of English coaches Jack Mansell, Don Howe and Malcolm Allison. Sevki had a fine spell with Galatasary before moving, two seasons ago, to Fenerbahce for a transfer fee of two million Turkish Liras.

Turkey's 0-1 defeat at the hands of Algeria in Brusa in a warm-up match created a turmoil in the administrative staff of the Turkish Federation. President Gungor Sayarn resigned, national coach Sabri Kiraz announced he would resign from his position after the matches against Malta and West Germany in the European Championship. He says he has no wish to work with newly appointed Federation President Cemil Saltak.

Sevki of Fenerbahce

Brazilian League news

IN RIO the championship is very close, and there is a big battle on between Botafogo, Fluminense, Flamengo and Vasco da Gama. The latest major game was a 1-1 draw between Flamengo and Vasco which saw wonderful goals from Zico (20 minutes) and Paulinho (51) (writes Claudio Kuck).

There was a 109,545 crowd in the Maracana stadium. Teams:

Flamengo: Cantarele — Leandro (Nelson), Rondinelli, Manguito, Junior — Paulo Cesar Carpeggiani, Adilio, Reinaldo (Tita) — Claudio Adao, Zico, Julio Cesar.

Vasco: Leao — Orlando, Abel, Geraldo, Marco Antonio — Helinho, Guina, Wilsinho — Paulinho (Carlos Alberto Garcia), Paulo Roberto (Toninho Vanusa), Ramon.

In Sao Paulo the little clubs are still going well, while the big ones such as Sao Paulo, Palmeiras, Portuguesa de Desportos are in trouble. The latest top game was Santos against Palmeiras. Santos went ahead through Juari after only 10 seconds, but Palmeiras hit back to win thanks to goals from Toninho (41 minutes) and Jorge Mendonca (71).

Some 55,585 saw the game in the Morumbi stadium and the teams were:

Santos: Vitor — Nelson, Joaozinho, Neto, Gilberto — Clodoaldo, Pita, Ailton Lira — Nilton Batata, Juari, Joao Paulo.

Palmeiras: Gilmar — Rosemiro, Beto Fuscao, Ivo, Pedrinho — Piras, Ze Mario, Jorge Mendonca — Amilton Rocha, Toninho (Escurinho), Nei (Baroninho).

Nevertheless Santos are still the best of the big clubs, leading Group D with 15 points from 10 games.

Finally, the best thing to happen in Brazilian football recently was that Reinaldo, the Atletico and Brazil centre forward has started training with a football again after his knee operation eight months ago.

It's too early to say that he has completely recovered, but it seems he will soon be playing again soon.

Rio de Janeiro championship

Recent important results: Vasco da Gama 1, Botafogo 1 — Fluminense 6, America 1 — Flamengo 5, Fluminense de Friburgo 1 — Botafogo 2, America 0 — Flamengo 1, Vasco 1.

Table

	P	F	A	Pts
Botafogo	6	17	1	10
Fluminense	5	19	4	9
Flamengo	5	13	2	9
Vasco da Gama	5	12	2	8
Americano	5	5	6	7
Fluminense/Friburgo	4	4	13	3
Volta Redonda	6	5	10	3
Sao Cristovao	6	3	13	2
America	5	5	14	2
Goytacaz	6	1	11	0

Top scorers: Nunes (Fluminense) and Lusinho (Botafogo) 7 — Zico (Flamengo) 6

Sao Paulo championship

Results: Sao Paulo 0, Juventus 2 — Portuguesa Desportos 1, Francana 1 — Noroeste 1, Corinthians 1 — Botafogo 1, Palmeiras 0 — Paulista 0, Santos 0 — Guarani 2, XV De Piracicaba 2 — Marilia 4, Ponte Preta 4 — XV de Jau 2, Comercial 0 — Sao Bento 1, Ferroviaria 1 — America 0, Portuguesa Santista 1 — XV de Piracicaba 0, Portuguesa Santista 0 — Paulista 2, XV de Jau 2 — Ponte Preta 5, Sao Bento 2 — Ferroviaria 2, Botafogo 2 — Comercial 1, Corinthians 1 — Francana 0, Noroeste 0 — America 1, Marilia 1 — Juventus 1, Portuguesa de Desportos 1.

Group A

	P	F	A	Pts
Guarani	14	20	10	19
Juventus	15	22	18	16
Portuguesa Santista	13	9	5	15
Palmeiras	14	19	13	15
Paulista	14	10	19	10

Group B

	P	F	A	Pts
Botafogo	13	16	11	15
Corinthians	13	10	9	13
America	14	12	18	11
Comercial	12	5	16	9
Noroeste	13	2	16	8

Group C

	P	F	A	Pts
Ponte Preta	13	28	16	18
Marilia	13	19	16	15
Francana	15	17	19	15
Sao Paulo	13	16	20	10
Sao Bento	14	20	15	10

Group D

	P	F	A	Pts
Santos	12	14	10	15
XV de Piracicaba	15	12	12	15
Ferroviaria	13	13	11	14
XV de Jau	14	13	14	13
Portuguesa de Desportos	14	13	18	11

Top Scorers: Ataliba (Juventus 18 — Jorge Mendonca (Palmeiras) 17 — Socrates (Corinthians) 16 — Juari (Santos) 14

Wizardry of Ossie

The remarkable and consistent form of Osvaldo Ardiles since joining Tottenham Hotspur has been a highlight of the British season. Only flaw in his game seemed to be a lack of scoring power but the wizardry of Os put that to right with two goals against Derby — the first of which we picture — and another week later against Manchester United in the F.A. Cup.

BULGARIAN OPTIMISM

AFTER years in the doldrums, there is some hope for Bulgarian football through the efforts of the Olympic team who have recently had a couple of encouraging results.

After beating Rumania 2-1 they had a 1-0 win over East Germany, the latter result being thanks to a goal from Levski Spartak centre-forward Rumen Gotchev the top scorer in the First Division with 15 goals.

The composition of this largely young Olympic side is based on the Army club side CSKA Sofia and there were five of them in the game against East Germany at Bourgas, the Black Sea resort.

Trainer Tsvetan Iltchev will be given the freedom of Sofia if he manages to keep this form up.

The full national side did nothing however to impress when being held to a 1-1 draw by Rumania themselves.

In the championship back in progress after the winter break, one weekend's matches were notable for their 'Italian' like goalscoring figures. The eight games produced only ten goals and included four goalless draws.

CSKA took a three point lead at the top of the league after beating Marek 2-0 with goals from stalwarts Denev and Kolev, while nearest rivals Levski Spartak were dropping a point at Bourgas, in a scoreless encounter.

Next month: Preview of the European Finals

Senol beaten at last

TRABZONSPOR's amazing record of defence this season ended against Adana Demispor when Senol conceded his first goal in 1161 minutes of play.

The Trabzonspor goalkeeper had let in only one other goal this season and though the end of his run did not bring utter ruin, as his team drew 1-1, they have let in another goal since then.

Third goal

But since it was only their third of the campaign and away to their nearest rivals Fenerbahce, perhaps it can be excused.

But for all their impressive performances at the back, Trabzonspor are only a point ahead and their 26 points from 18 matches have no fewer than ten drawn games among them.

Still the lively Trabzonspor goalkeeper can scarcely be accused of developing Senol decay, can he?

Two new books for soccer enthusiasts

Soccer Refereeing
a personal view
Jack Taylor

A key phrase in the Laws of the Game runs 'If, in the opinion of the referee . . .'. In this book the renowned international referee Jack Taylor passes on the lessons he learned the hard way in interpreting those Laws. All who are involved in soccer – whether as official, player or spectator – will find it of absorbing interest. Action photographs. Hardback **£3.50**; Paperback **£1.75**

Football Worlds
a lifetime in sport
Stanley Rous

No one knows more of football throughout the world or has contributed more to its development than Sir Stanley Rous. His achievements, first as secretary of the FA for 27 years and then as President of FIFA for 13, owed much to his integrity and sense of humour – qualities very much in evidence in this autobiography. Illustrated. Hardback **£6.25**

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NELINHO
A Players Portrait
by Keir Radnedge — BACK TROUBL

ONE OF the features of the 1978 World Cup was the explosive long-range shooting to be seen. And for European observers there was a new name to appreciate — Nelinho.

The Brazilian right-back scored two spectacular goals — one against Poland in the second round, one against Italy in the third-place game.

For South Americans this was nothing new. Nelinho had the most feared shot of any player in Latin America and was renowned. But to most of the Europeans he was a revelation.

"Just think how well he could do in Europe?" someone told me. And I was able to reply, because I'd met Nelinho before, that in fact he had once played in Europe, with Barreirense of Portugal back in 1970/71.

It had seemed the obvious move for a 20-year-old eager to push ahead with his career. After all, the parents of Manoel Rezende De Mattos Cabral — to provide his full name — were Portuguese themselves. Born in Rio de Janeiro, Nelinho's early years had been spent with America FC, then came the move to Barreirense — one more club on a long road to stardom in a career which came to a sudden, dramatic halt not long after Brazil's retreat from Argentina.

For Nelinho played his last game of 1978, possibly of his career, on August 16 in Vigo, Spain, a confused victim of the pressures in football today which insist that a man plays on with medical aid past what should have been a breaking point.

It was during Brazil's European tour last spring that Nelinho first reported a stiff back, during training in Turin.

'Only a miracle was going to take me to the World Cup'

"That's nothing," he was told, "probably just the damp." And he was set a series of loosening-up exercises. In truth the only correct treatment was of the sort neither Brazil nor the player would have thought they could afford — complete rest. But such was the competition for places in the squad that no one wanted to spend any longer out of action than necessary.

Once home even Nelinho had to admit that his chances of a place in the World Cup were slim, though not because of his injury.

"The papers were full of talk about whether Toninho would play right-back or Ze Maria," he recalled later. "So I decided the best thing was to forget all about playing for the Selecao. Only a miracle was going to take me to the World Cup."

The miracle did, in fact, occur. Nelinho was visiting his parents in Rio when he had a phone call from Brazil boss Claudio Coutinho to tell him that cartilage trouble had put Ze Maria out of contention. Nelinho was in the 22.

"I couldn't believe it. In fact I was so overcome that when I put the phone down and told my family I started to cry like a baby. Silly maybe, but you have to understand what playing in the World Cup means to a Brazilian, and the fact that I had lost all hope of taking part. Ze Maria was probably in tears too — after all, he must have had his bags packed and ready."

All thought of Nelinho's stiff back went out of his mind. He had been taking pain-killing injections and was prepared to put up with almost anything to return to the World Cup stage. He's been in West Germany in 1974 under Mario Zagalo. Then he played in the first round games against Yugoslavia, Scotland and Zaire, but lost his place to . . . Ze Maria.

Not everyone was happy with Nelinho's selection. The Rio Press lobbied powerfully for Toninho, who had the built-in advantage of playing under Coutinho at Flamengo. The difference between the players was as marked as the difference in the colours of their skin.

The black Toninho was above all so sure-footed in defence, in marking and covering. Nelinho's bent lay in attack.

"I know I'm not particularly skilful and that I sometimes have trouble with the men I'm set to mark," he said. "But I reckon I've been called into the team first and foremost for my free kicks and I'll do my best to be worth my place."

Nelinho's free kicks, as we have said, were already featured throughout the continent. The Cruzeiro fans in Belo Horizonte had seen him score 92 in the five years since he wandered home to Brazil from Portugal via Anzoategui, of Venezuela, Bom Suceso and Remo, of Parana. They nicknamed him *Dinamita* and his fame even spread to Spain thanks to Cruzeiro's frequent summer tours.

Argentine fans were well aware of his ability to bend a ball in all directions at any pace and with phenomenal power. It was a typical Nelinho goal, struck from fully 40 yards, which crashed past Hugo Gatti in the second leg of the 1977 Libertadores final against Boca Juniors.

That goal won Cruzeiro the match in Belo Horizonte, but wasn't quite enough for the Brazilians to hang on to their South American club title. They went down on penalties in the play-off in Montevideo.

Up until then Nelinho had always regarded the Centenario stadium as one of his lucky grounds. It was there, in a Uruguay-Brazil international in 1976, that he scored the goal he remembers best.

"It was just inside the half-way line when I hit it and as soon as I made contact I knew the ball was going in. Corbo was in goal, but though he got his fingers to the ball it was flying too powerfully he couldn't keep it out.

"Afterwards he showed me how his fingers had swollen by the way the shot forced them back . . ."

That was the sort of form Brazil wanted to see from Nelinho in Argentina, though some officials were worried that the new Tango football produced by Adidas wouldn't respond so dramatically to the dead ball skills of their aces such as Nelinho, Rivelino and Zico.

Nelinho was least concerned.

"I've played in many different countries with lots of different types of footballs," he said. "This new one is hardly likely to be any worse than some we have to use in our Brazilian championship matches."

But Brazil found an unsuspected problem when they arrived in Mar del Plata for the first round — the state of the pitch. Nelinho was left out of the opening 1-1 draw with Sweden, but gained his 16th cap in the 0-0 draw with Spain which followed and which I still rate the worst game of the finals.

"We were lucky," admitted Nelinho afterwards. "How Cardenosa didn't score when he had that open goal I'll never know."

Nelinho, to be honest, had a poor match — something in which he wasn't alone. In the absence of Rivelino and with Zico totally demoralised, he took all Brazil's free-kicks, but found even his well-practised and sure touch had for once deserted him.

'He showed me his fingers . . . swollen by the shot'

Of more than a dozen kicks only one caused Spanish goalkeeper Miguel Angel any trouble. The rest ballooned high or wide. In the end Gil was sent on as substitute and Nelinho, despite being one of the favourites of CBD boss Heleno Nunes, didn't reappear until the last second round game against Poland.

Brazil, having beaten Peru but drawn with Argentina, were losing confidence. Already the post-mortems were beginning, even though the most dramatic stage of the finals had yet to be reached.

"We improved a little against Peru but still didn't play all that well," was Nelinho's much in-demand opinions. "In the first round we had the pitch as an excuse. Now there's no such problem but we still haven't got on top of our game. I don't think our attitude has been right.

"I'm sorry I missed the game against Argentina. There were a couple of free kicks in tremendous positions. I would really have fancied my chances of beating Fillol at least once. But Dirceu had done well enough with the free-kicks against Peru so the manager considered me dispensible. But if only I'd had the chance . . ."

Nelinho was restored against Poland. The Brazilians needed to pile up the goals to edge out hosts Argentina from a place in the final. Nelinho provided a perfect start after only 13 minutes with a viciously swerving free-kick from 30 yards which beat goalkeeper Kukla by seconds. But though the final score was 3-1, that wasn't enough.

Brazil had to be satisfied, for a second successive tournament, to play the third-place match. The opponents were Italy and here again Nelinho had an explosive part to play.

With Italy leading 1-0 and with some 25

E THREATENS CAREER

minutes to go, the Cruzeiro right-back swung his magical right foot at the ball way out on the right wing, a good 35 yards or more from goal. Somehow the shot curled round Dino Zoff's fingers and just inside the far post. Inspired by the most spectacular goal of the finals, as many observers called it, Brazil went on to win 2-1.

Nelinho was a hero. Everyone wanted to know him, and everything about him.

When were you born? — "July 26, 1950."

Have you always played right-back? — "No, I played in other positions. In 1972 when I was with Remo I was wing-half. In 1973 and 1974 when Zeze Moreira was the boss at Cruzeiro he would often send me up with the attack in the seond half if we needed a goal. It often worked, too."

What's your secret? — "There is no secret. It's just that I've been belting footballs ever since I was small. I used to spend hours and hours, day after day, shooting. Even now, after training, rain or shine, hot or cold, in Belo Horizonte or Rome, I spend an hour practising my shooting. I start at the penalty spot and gradually move the ball further and further out and to the wings. You can overdo it. I had quite a spell out of the game once, though, because when I was younger my foot couldn't take the constant pressure."

Did wearing the No. 13 in the World Cup worry you? — "No, I'm not superstitious. And certainly 13 wasn't bad luck for me. I think I played well enough and scored two important goals. That one against Poland could have helped us into the final. I think we deserved to be champions, too, but there were too many little problems — starting with that infernal pitch in Mar del Plata."

As the only Cruzeiro player to appear in the World Cup, Nelinho remained the centre of attention when the club travelled to Spain in August.

'I've been belting footballs ever since I was small'

In the Vigo tournament he responded in style by scoring one typical free-kick and again from a penalty. Referee Saez Elizondo made Nelinho take the penalty twice in the game against Porto, and the Spanish reports joked that the referee had invented an incursion into the box by an opponent just so Nelinho could provide everyone with a stylish action replay!

But that game was not all fun for Nelinho. In one tackle the Porto forward Octavio unluckily broke a leg. After the game Nelinho followed on to the hospital and waited while Octavio had his leg set under anaesthetic. The gesture of a man worthy of his fame — perhaps the gesture, too, of a man with an inkling of what lay around his own personal corner.

Returning from Spain Nelinho found the back trouble suddenly much worse, with a creeping paralysis entering his all-important right leg. In vain he visited one specialist after another. When they could provide no solution he sought local saints for whom healing powers were claimed. All to no avail. Adding to his anxiety were the rumours which began to circulate.

"They say I'm inventing these pains so Cruzeiro will sell me, but it's not true," he complained.

Cards and letters arrived from all over Brazil suggesting remedies. He went in and out of hospital for tests, even tried acupuncture — "those 60 sessions hurt me — but not with the pins, only in the wallet," — and smiled through his confusion.

Finally, after a new series of X-rays, sciatic nerve trouble was diagnosed. Nelinho was advised to undergo an immediate operation to stand any chance of resuming his career.

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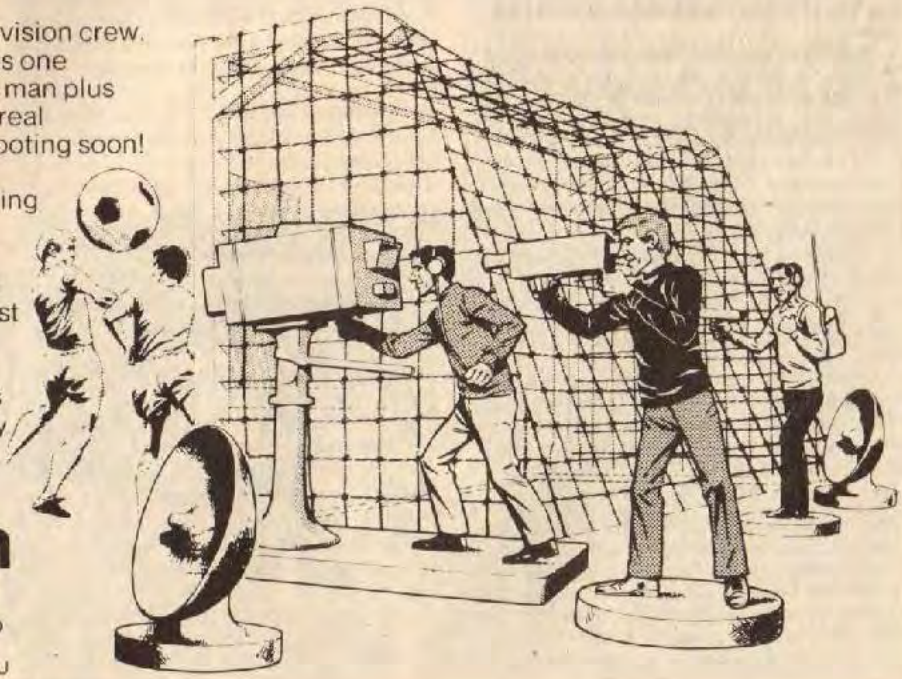

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AMERICA MISS CHANCES

AGE is catching up with former Chilean international, Carlos Reinoso, who plays for star-studded America in the Mexican League. The insider — considered until recently one of the best players in Mexico — still wants to dictate play and do everything himself, but it doesn't always work out anymore and that is one of the reasons why America, the last Central American club champions and holders of the Inter-American Cup (for whom Brazil's World Cup star Dirceu also plays), just can not get to the top of the group.

They lost another chance to get close when they went down 2-1 to powerful Toluca on the latter's field and Reinoso — who rarely missed such chances before — failed with a penalty on the day group leaders Monterrey were held to a draw. Monterrey now head group one by three points.

Toluca top group and now equal the best record in the league with group four leader Universidad de Nuevo Leon — 33 points from 24 matches — while Universidad Autonoma has the biggest lead in group two — five points over Potosi (see tables).

Details from South and Central America

MEXICO
First Division

Group 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Monterrey	24	9	9	6	30	26	27
America	24	10	4	10	40	33	24
Guadalajara	24	8	8	8	31	37	24
Atlante	24	6	8	10	35	38	20
Veracruz	24	3	6	15	19	51	12
Group 2							
Univ. Autonoma	24	11	8	5	44	34	30
Potosino	24	10	5	9	31	38	25
Tampico	24	6	11	7	39	38	23
Leon	24	7	6	11	34	40	20
Jalico	24	4	8	12	27	39	16
Group 3							
Toluca	24	14	5	5	44	24	33
Cruz Azul	24	11	8	5	43	22	30
Puebla	24	10	8	6	32	28	28
U. de Guadalajara	24	10	4	10	39	38	24
Curtidores	24	7	7	10	29	31	21
Group 4							
Univ. de Nuevo Leon	24	11	11	2	38	26	33
Zacatepec	24	9	10	5	35	27	28
U. Auto. de G'dal.	24	7	11	6	35	31	25
Neza	24	6	7	11	19	32	19
Atletico Espanol	24	5	7	11	29	41	17

ECUADOR — Championship (final round — final standings): 1) Nacional 13pts; 2) Tecnico Universitario 9; 3) Barcelona and Emelec 7.

BOLIVIA — Professional Major League (final round): 1) Bolivar 5 pts; 2) Jorge Wilsterman 4; 3) Oriente Petrolero 2; 4) Always Ready 1.

BRAZIL — Sao Paulo State Championship: Group A: Guarani 16 pts, Portuguesa Santista 12, Palmeiras 10, Juventus 9, Paulista 5. Group B: Corintians 10, Botafogo, America and Comercial 8, Noroeste 5. Group C: Francana 12, Ponte Preta 11, Marilia 9, Sao Paulo and Sao Bento 7. Group D: Piracicaba 14, Jau and Ferroviaria 10, Santos and Portuguesa de Desporots 9.

OTHER MAJOR INTERNATIONAL MATCHES (including those played within summer tournaments): Racing Club (Argentina) 3 Czechoslovakia select 3 (Jan 27); Czechoslovakia select 1 Internacional Porto Alegre (Brazil) 0 (Feb 1 in Mar del Plata); Racing Club (Argentina 1 Internacional P. Alegre (Brazil) 1 (Feb 4); Independiente-Rivadavia (Argentina) 0 Czechoslovakia select 6 (Feb 4); Belgrano Cordoba (Argentina) 3 Czechoslovakia select 2 (Feb 3); River Plate (Argentina) 4 Czechoslovakia select 1 (Feb 7); Nacional (Uruguay) 1 FC Oeste (Argentina) 1 (Feb 7); Millionarios (Colombia champs) 2 Alianza Lima (Peru champs) 2 (Feb 7); Boca Juniors (Argentina) 2 Czechoslovakia select 3 (Feb 10); Belgrano Cordoba (Argentina) 2 Internacional P. Alegre (Brazil) 0 (Feb 10); Alianza Lima (Peru champs) 5 Ujpesti Dosza (Hungary) 3 (Feb 11 in Bogota); Independiate-Santa Fe (Colombia) 1 Alianza Lima (Peru champs) 3 (Feb 4).

Age scandal hits Chile

AS is often the case in junior tournaments — for which the absolute age limit is the 19th birthday — there is a lot of suspicion about the ages of some of the players. The appearance of the much older looking Paraguayan team in the South American Championships caused the first raised eyebrows. Investigation by tournament authorities centred particularly on defender Lisandro Cabrera who has a four-year-old son. It ended when he "walked off" during the first match against Chile after being substituted and it was then announced that he had "broken his leg". He took no further part in the tournament.

But the real scandal broke over Chile's team which, it was rumoured, had players up to 23 years of age. Two players were sent home before the tournament started as "disciplinary action", but the real reason seemed to be that their passports had been falsified. This started an investigation by the authorities in Chile and coach Pedro Garcia, team co-ordinator Enrique Jorquera, 11 players, two tourist agency employees and two registry office officials were behind bars at press time as being implicated in the scandal. Government authorities have also said they will not allow the Chilean team to participate in the Pan American Games (where there is no age limit) — for which they qualified by placing fifth in Uruguay — if the apparent falsification of documents is proved in the court case in progress.

Argentina's national coach, Cesar Menotti, returned from Montevideo happy with the team's performance at having qualified for the Junior World Cup finals and saying that many of the players would soon be in the senior national team. But he indicated that he would not be with the Argentine team in Japan.

Most popular member of Ecuador's team in Montevideo was their coach, Spencer, outstanding as a player with Montevideo's Penarol during their great era of the late 50's and early 60's. He was wildly cheered by Uruguayan fans every time he entered the field.

The tournament, it was calculated, would leave a profit of at least 130,000 dollars after record gates at most matches in Montevideo for a junior championship.

South American Junior Championship top scorer Romero (right) heads Paraguay's first goal in the 5-0 victory of Colombia.

SIX REPRIEVE IN BRATISLAVA?

French Football by André Duclos

THE great test in Bratislava, the make or break match for France's European Nations Cup chances, draws nearer and nearer. Will Didier Six be reprieved and restored to the team after his displeasing lapse? We shall see. Meanwhile a comfortable victory over modest little Luxembourg keeps France more or less in contention, though it is not very encouraging to have as a home ground, the new Parc des Princes, where falling masonry seems to have become a hazard, however blithely the designers try to explain the faults.

The episode of Didier Six was thought by some wiseacres to be no more than an extension of the relative lack of discipline at the Hindu Club in Argentina last summer: they opine that Michel Hidalgo is not a strong enough manager, and point out that Six was by no means the only French player who was breaking camp and curfew that time, when the players were supposedly in retirement at St. Germain. Its simply that his reckless driving and the moment of panic which followed his accident got him into hot water, while the rest of them contrived to stay out of it.

Let us talk of happier things; such as the surprising come back of Strasbourg, after the winter break which might truly have been made with them in mind. You may remember that the Alsatian team, playing a brand of total football under the managership of Gilbert Gress, set a hot pace at the start, only to fall away badly. It seemed they'd run out of energy but lo and behold, after the hiatus, they began winning matches with all their old brio, and were quickly back at the top of the First Division. Not least because goal scoring began to be shared around. The chief midfield schemer, Francis Piasecki, much better known for making goals than scoring them, actually put away all three against Paris FC at home, two of the goals whistling home from free kicks outside the box. After the game Piasecki came out grinning and offered to give his colleagues lessons in how to take free kicks!

Centre-forwards continue to take the eye. Delio Onnis, that prolific Argentinian, is continuing to score goals galore for Monaco, who were trying to ditch him in favour of Cyrille Regis less than a year ago. Recently the Yugoslav coach Vasovic committed the act of *lèse majesté* of dropping that other distinguished Argentine Carlos Bianchi from his team, though he had already scored 18 goals. Onnis said publicly it was ridiculous. Bianchi however was soon back in the side; how can you keep so remarkable a scorer out for long?

Youngest of all the centre-forwards to take the eye is the 18-year-old Yannick Stopyra of Sochaux, who led the attack of the French youth international team in this season's European Youth tournament. If the name is familiar, that's because his father was a well known League player in his time. Yannick played his first League game for Sochaux at sixteen and a half; a precocious performer. A schoolboy international in his time, his favourite players are Rocheteau — will he be our secret weapon in Bratislava? — Michel Platini — will he be fully back in form by then? — Emoni — will he force his way into the team there? — and of course Johan Cruyff. Meanwhile Stopyra is still playing First Division soccer for Sochaux, where he tends to be used as a right sided striker.

A slightly older centre-forward who has done well this season is the 21-year-old Valadier of Lyon, who this season made the great jump from the Third Division to the First. He found it no easy matter to adjust — though in fact he adapted very quickly. Training of course is much harder, he says, but one of the hardest things of all is to resist the harsh tactics of opposing defenders. They probably, Valadier admits, don't kick you as often as you would get kicked in the lower divisions, but by way of compensation, "they are a hundred times more malign and more vicious."

Behind Valadier plays the brilliant little Serge Chiesa, whose technique he envies and would love to imitate; his own, he says, is his weak point. He came to Lyon as a right winger, but has been glad to switch to centre-forward; his original position and one he occupied for seven years with the junior A.S. Saint-Martin club. Several major clubs wanted him last summer, but he chose Lyon because it was the one he had supported as a boy.

Then there is the powerful black Gilbert Marguerite, who is having such a splendid season at Nimes, easily his best since he came into French football. Marguerite is not particularly young; he is just 25-years-old. But certainly we are seeing the best of him only this season. Born at Marin in Martinique, he made his debut for Nimes as long ago as October, 1975. That season he played half-a-dozen games without a single goal. Next season, twice as many games produced only two goals. Last season things suddenly took a sharp turn for the better when he got 15 goals in 23 games; but this season, he had scored 16 in 23 games, and he's still scoring.

Breadwinner for a massive family of 10 children, greatly popular on and off the field in Nimes, Marguerite attributes his new success to his coach Henri Noel: "The coach has liberated me completely. He has given me confidence. With him, I succeed, I feel good. I must go on, fight, to get where I want to."

When he scores, what joy! "Something happens in me," he says. "I explode. I can't control the pleasure that fills me. I raise my hand, or I fall on my knees, eyes raised to Heaven. Immediately afterwards I feel I must start again and score another ... and another." Quite often this is exactly what he does.

As a boy, he would get up at five o'clock in the morning to go running; often with Daniel Lubin, who is now playing League football not very far away at Toulon. Much time was passed in fishing; for food. Now all that dedication is being repaid — in goals.

Flashback to Argentina with Italy equalising against France.

South American Junior Championship

URUGUAY AND HEAD

by Eric Weil

NO ONE could have wished for a more exciting final to the South American Junior Championships (up to 18) played in Uruguay which qualified the top two teams directly for the Junior World Cup finals in Japan in August and the third for a play-off against Australia and Israel to decide another final place. On the last day all four final round teams still had the incentive to fight all the way for vital places, but the constant threat hanging over the tournament was that if teams finished level on points and goal difference in any of the top three places after all the effort, it would be decided by tossing a coin . . . and there was every indication that this would happen until the very last shot of the tournament.

Until then, Uruguay, facing Paraguay in the last match, were not sure of finishing in one of the top two qualifying places and Paraguay were in the same position as they reduced the difference to 2-1 16 minutes before the end and then came close to equalising. A draw would have left both teams tying top place with Argentina on points and the same plus one goal difference . . . and a coin would have decided the title, which two go to Tokyo and which to the playoff.

Earlier Argentina, facing Brazil, had the option of finishing either top or bottom of the final round, depending on whether they won by a two-goal margin or lost by one goal. They won 1-0 with a penalty 14 minutes from the end and had to await their fate until the Uruguay-Paraguay match was over. It was as close as that.

Uruguay and Argentina were the favourites from the start. They showed not only in matches against each other but also against other rivals that they are very evenly matched. In the final round their superiority over Paraguay and Brazil was however very slight. In their two meetings during the tournament, Uruguay beat Argentina 1-0 in their qualifying group match when both teams had already qualified for the final round and Argentina rested key players — a move strongly resented by some Uruguayan fans who molested Argentine coach Cesar Menotti in the stands during the game and smashed up cars with Argentine number plates afterwards.

This brought a protest from the Argentine delegation — instigated by Menotti — against the South American Football Confederation's ruling that reserves and training staff always had to sit in the stands instead of on the sidelines. It was made when a recent Libertadores Cup match, involving Uruguay's Penarol was interrupted by a free for all in which reserves and training staff of both teams joined in. The Confederation refused to change the rule, but ordered more police protection to which Menotti's comment was: "If there is a fight on the field, what difference does it make if it's between 11 or 15 a side?"

Encounter

In the final round, with full strength teams, the Uruguay-Argentina encounter ended 0-0, in many ways the fairest result, but it produced the ugliest scenes. Just before the end Argentine defender Barbas was sent off and as his protesting team mates crowded around the referee, Uruguyan police came on the field and were seen to hit several Argentine players — specially key midfielder Maradona who afterwards showed the marks and also bitterly complained of the "man hunt" he had been subjected to by opposing players right through the tournament.

In relation to the rest of the world, as for their chances in Japan, both teams are "unknown quantities" for the simple reason that neither has played teams from outside the South American continent at junior international or any other level, except for one instance — Argentina beat the touring New York Cosmos 2-1 in a training match two months earlier.

The Argentine team was prepared by the same training staff under coach Menotti and at the same training headquarters in Jose C. Paz, near Buenos Aires, as the senior team which won the senior World Cup in June last year. The difference was the time factor — they were confined to camp only three months before the tournament and all but two of the players were allowed to play for their clubs on Sundays.

The two players are central defender Hugo Alves and midfielder Diego Maradona. Both were in Menotti's senior World Cup squad of 25 last May when he had to drop three players to reduce the list to 22 according to FIFA rules. It was a difficult decision and Menotti left out the two 18-year-old's because they may have been slightly short of experience and because, he said, their time would come.

Maradona had by then already earned three full international caps — having been Argentina's youngest ever international against Hungary in 1977 — and Alves had played in the 1977 SA junior tournament.

Home advantage — and the fanatical fans which filled Montevideo's Centenario stadium to near capacity every time they played (70 to 80,000 crowds must be considered big for junior internationals) — meant a lot to Uruguay who, however, also failed in attack. After making short work of Ecuador (5-0) and Peru (3-0), they only scored four more in the remaining four games.

Uruguay won this tournament more with unbounded enthusiasm, tenacity and fighting spirit — characteristics of Uruguayan teams than overall skill and team work. It was Argentina's World Cup win story all over again with the home team being swept to the title on a wave of popular enthusiasm — which would not have been the case if the tournament had been held elsewhere.

Paraguay, a worthy third, were the surprise of the tournament with tall, strong players — often Paraguayan teams are slightly built — who nevertheless showed excellent fitness and speed. Their stars were midfielder Julio Romero — the tournament's top scorer with five goals — and dangerous forward Ramon Issasi, as well as defender Hugo Caballero and the other two forwards, Severiano Cardozo and Ricardo Valinotti in a team which all had first division experience . . . and all this left lingering doubts about their real ages.

Brazil had the hardest job to reach the final round after a surprise 2-1 defeat by Colombia in their first game. Colombia did not keep up the good work, otherwise they would have qualified in their place.

Argentina's World Cup coach Cesar Menotti watching the Junior Championship opening game between Uruguay and Ecuador.

ARGENTINA FOR TOKYO

Argentina's star midfield player Maradona (right) beats Paraguayan defender Zurian battle for the ball, despite the referee's close attentions.

DETAILS

January 26
ARGENTINA 0 PARAGUAY 0
Argentina: Garcia, Piaggio, Simón, Rossi, H. Alves, Meza (Candedo), Sperandio, Maradona, Escudero, Diaz, Barrera.
Paraguay: Elizeche, Olmedo, Caballero, Zurian, Vera, Miño, Gimenez, Romero, Cardozo, Isassi, Valinotti.
Referee: Gilberto Aristizabal (Colombia). **Att:** 70,000.

URUGUAY (1) 1 (Paz) **BRAZIL 0**
Uruguay: Alvez, Molina, Caceres, Alaguich, Martinez, Barrios, Luzardo, Roo, Vargas (Mazetti), Paz, Viera.
Brazil: Marolla, Luiz Claudio, Marcio, Wagner, Loti, Rodinei, Paulo Cesar, Leandro, Jorginho, Gerzinho (Everton), César.
Referee: Elías Jacome (Ecuador). **Att:** 70,000.

January 29
URUGUAY 0 ARGENTINA 0
Uruguay: Alvez, Bossio, Caceres, Alagujch, Martinez, Barrios, Luzardo, Roo, Vargas, Paz, Viera (Acosta).
Argentina: Garcia, Barbas, Simón, Rossi, Alves, Meza, Sperandio, Maradona, Escudero, Diaz, Barrera.
Referee: Gaston Castro (Chile). **Att:** 75,000

PARAGUAY (1) 2 (Miño, Cardoso) **BRAZIL (1) 1** (Cesar)
Paraguay: Elizeche, Olmedo, Surian, Caballero, Vera, Gimenez, Miño, Romero, Cardoso, Isassi, Fernandez (Cabañas).
Brazil: Marolla, Luiz Claudio, Marcio, Wagner, Loti, Cesar, Deinha, Rodinei, Paulo Borges (Gersinho), Robertinho, Anchietta (Everton).
Referee: Pedro Reyes (Peru). **Att:** 75,000.

January 31
ARGENTINA (0) 1 (Alves pen.) **BRAZIL 0**
Argentina: Garcia, Rinaldi, Simon, Rossi, Alves, Meza, Sperandio, Maradona, Escudero, Diaz (Torres), Barrera (Candedo).
Brazil: Marolla, Loti, Marzio, Wagner, Chico de Assis, Deinha, Cesar (Jorginho), Rodinei, Gerzinho, Robertinho, Anchietta (Everton).
Referee: Gilberto Arastizabal (Colombia). **Att:** 75,000.

URUGUAY (1) 2 (Roo, Viera) **PARAGUAY (0) 1** (Caballero)
Uruguay: Alvez, Molina, Caceres, Alaguich, Martinez, Barrios, Luzardo, Roo, Vargas, Paz (Acosta), Viera.
Paraguay: Elizeche, Olmedo (Fernandez), Surian, Caballero, Vera, Gimenez, Miño, Romero, Cardozo, Isassi, Valinoti (Cabaña).
Referee: José Wright (Brazil). **Att:** 75,000.

Final standings — final round

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
URUGUAY	3	2	1	0	3	1	5
ARGENTINA	3	1	2	0	1	0	4
Paraguay	3	1	1	1	3	3	3
Brazil	3	0	0	3	1	4	–

(Top two qualify for Junior World Cup finals in Japan — third plays off with Australia and Israel for another final place).
Top scorers: Romero (Par) 5, Diaz (Arg) and Luzardo (Ur) 4.

January 25 (5th place match for Pan American Games qualification).
CHILE (1) 3 (Ormeño, Donoso, Meneses) **PERU (1) 1** (Drago)
Chile: Quiroz, Guzman, Pacheco, Rojas, Villazón, Ormeño (Vargas), Ugarte, Hurtado, Soto (Meneses), Letelier, Donoso.
Peru: Castro, Costa, Belber (Diaz), Requena, Garcia, Drago, Vargas, Chirinos, Rey (Duarte), Caballero, Acuña.
Referee: Juan Cardelino (Uruguay).

Paraguay qualify

PARAGUAY became the last qualifier for this year's 16-team Junior World Cup finals in Japan by easily winning a triangular tournament against Israel and Australia played in Asunción. They showed ample superiority, winning their four matches, and only had one goal scored against them by Israel — who lost 2-1 and gave them the hardest fight — but Paraguay's final place had already been decided in the previous match.

Even this final match was played before 22,000 spectators, while Paraguay's previous matches all had gates of 50,000 and over. The tremendous interest in the country — where little international soccer is played — was reflected in the fact that the Paraguayan FA had practically covered all expenses for organising the tournament with the takings of the first two of the six matches.

Australia and Israel were on the same level and drew 0-0 in their two meetings, but they lacked the experience of Paraguay whose tall midfielder Julio Romero was again their outstanding player, organising play and also finishing as top scorer with five goals (from four games) just as he had done in the recent South American Junior Championship in Uruguay in which Paraguay were third to qualify for this play-off. Champions Uruguay and runners-up Argentina had automatically qualified for the Junior World Cup finals.

CLASSIFIED RESULTS
JUNIOR WORLD CUP Extra Qualifying Group (in Asunción, Paraguay)
February 7
PARAGUAY (1) 2 (Romero 2) **AUSTRALIA 0**

February 9
AUSTRALIA 0 ISRAEL 0

February 11
PARAGUAY (2) 3 (Romero, Valinoti, Cabañas) **ISRAEL 0. Att: 50,000**
Paraguay: Elizeche, Olmedo, Caballero, Surian, Vera, Gimenez, Miño, Romero, Cardozo, Cabañas, Valinotti.
Israel: Alter, A. Malka, God, Boaz, Osanti, Sticker, Schwarzbaum, S. Malka, Levi, Svasu, Dorah.
Referee: Dennis Fusco (Canada).

February 14
ISRAEL 0 AUSTRALIA 0
Israel: Alter, A. Malka, Boaz, Dror, Duvi, Sticker, Uri, Schwarzbaum, Levi, S. Malka, Dorah.
Australia: Woodhouse, Milanovic, Rauden, Christopulos, Hogg, Selemides, Davidson, Tredinnik, Hunter, Kmcevic, Jenning.
Referee: J. Wright (Brazil).

February 16
PARAGUAY (2) 3 (Romero, Vera, Jimenez) **AUSTRALIA 0**

February 18
PARAGUAY (1) 2 (Cabañas, Romero) **ISRAEL (1) 1** (Schwarzbaum). **Att: 22,000.**
Paraguay: Navarro, Olmedo, Caballero, Surian, Figueredo, Miño, Romero, Delgado, Cardozo, Isassi, Cabañas.
Israel: Arie, Raam, Boaz, Dror, Duvi, Sticker, Schwarzbaum, Igal, Levi, Dorah, Elijahu.
Referee: Juan Siles (Costa Rica).

Final Standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PARAGUAY	4	4	–	–	10	1	8
Israel	4	–	2	2	1	5	2
Australia	4	–	2	2	0	5	2

MIND YOUR MANNERS RUDI TOLD

Rudi Gutendorf.

AUSTRALIA'S progress towards soccer maturity is a painfully laborious process; at times it is reminiscent of a man energetically walking on an escalator — the wrong way. We are always in a hurry; we never cease to cut corners. The Australian soccer enthusiast, basically a composite character, is an impatient soul who, depending on his ethnic background, wants to emulate the deeds of Italian, Greek, German, English and other soccer's noble achievements — preferably in one week.

Now, of course, we have a new example to follow: the American miracle. More and more coaches and officials go on pilgrimages to the good ole' USA — usually as tourists — and having sampled the delights of Disneyland, Fisherman's Wharf or Greenwich Village, take the trouble (how good of them) to drop in on one or two US clubs, pick up an airline bagful of fancy brochures and talk to the assistant deputy sales clerk for a full ten minutes.

Then they come home, bursting with this vital information and tell us, simple simons in the backwoods of Sydney and Melbourne, how those goddam Yanks are on the way to becoming a world power.

What they omit to mention, even in passing, is that the Americans seem to pour millions into the game while we have only thousands; that they play in first-class stadia and not in obscure suburbs where the ground's only claim to fame is a portable loo.

Whether the Yanks will make it or not doesn't concern me at present though, being a cynic from way back, I doubt it: you can buy almost everything except tradition. And soccer's magic is largely based on tradition, on hand-me-down sentiments and club loyalties and coloured stories of yesteryear's heroes. Alas, no dollar heaps will buy that.

I also doubt it because I cannot see one single example of soccer having overtaken, indeed, deposed a national sport in any developed country of the world. Whatever took the fancy of the majority of people in the 1920s in the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Japan or you name it, is still reigning supreme. Soccer's chances of licking baseball or football in the USA are about the same as cricket knocking off soccer in Hungary — despite the Hungarians, through their geographical isolation, being quite hopeless Anglomaniacs at heart.

Still, Australia should be much further advanced by now than she is — if only we were prepared to build our edifices more patiently — or could rebuild the whole thing from scratch. But it's not possible; we suffer under ossified conditions created half a century ago. Paying constant homage to the great Australian illusion of running sport democratically, we allow dilettants and dogooders, wealthy glory-seekers and enthusiastic but ill-prepared volunteers to love the game to an early death. And if, very occasionally, a true professional appears on the scene, we tend to treat him as a leper, madman or a combination of the two.

A classic example was provided in February by the exploits of the Young Australia team which took part in an elimination series for the FIFA/Coco-Cola World Youth Cup in faraway Paraguay. Assembled in a hurry over a few weeks, the team naturally failed in Asuncion, losing twice to Paraguay 2-0 and 3-0 and drawing twice with Israel, 0-0. In other words — not a goal scored.

Now the great post-mortem is under way. Coach Rudi Gutendorf, the team's German coach and former boss of Hamburg and other top clubs, is likely to be carpeted. Not because of the team's failure — nobody was surprised or even annoyed at that — but because of his clashes with fellow officials.

No ice-cream!

Gutendorf, it seems, "interfered" in the team medico's work by disallowing his players to eat ice-cream after six of the players had already been made kaput by various stomach disorders. Fancy a qualified manager daring to speak up. The fact that the medico is not a sports medical specialist — we have no such things in this country — doesn't matter; ice creams are his specialities.

Then he hogged the limelight in Asuncion, speaking to pressmen, TV people, association officials, hotel waiters and street urchins and, horribile dictu, expressing his own view here and there.

That Gutendorf was the ONLY member of the whole party who could speak Spanish — having coached in South America for four years — is neither here nor there. Also irrelevant is the fact that the tour manager was appointed almost by mistake; the association "thought" he spoke some Spanish — but it turned out to be Italian. What bad luck, really. Is there any difference between them?

Then, of course, the major charge: Gutendorf was a "maniac". Rude Rudi, as they called him. He wanted the officials to officiate, the masseur to massage, the players to play. How unreasonable can you get? What's more, he told them so and, because of his broken English (don't worry: three other Australian officials also had that) perhaps his admonishments weren't in the elegant style of an Oscar Wilde. So one manager wanted to fly home with an injured dignity, two others declared they wouldn't tour again with Rudi and almost all are busy writing their versions of the tour which will make an Agatha Christie thriller look like a nursery rhyme.

Let me add here that I hold no brief for Gutendorf: I guess he can defend himself fairly well when the kangaroo court convenes. I can also well imagine that he did step on some toes, told a few people off, even raised his voice in anger and anguish. But so have I. And for years — but to no avail. Australian soccer has the world's most devastating deaf ears.

Gutendorf was engaged, at a reported £30,000 p.a., because he is a top coach. Not a top diplomat; for that Dr. Kissinger could have been better. Highly talented people — let alone the brilliant ones — are often temperamental; just check the behaviour pattern of a Toscanini, Maria Callas or even George Best. But the world usually accepts them with their warts and all; this is the lot of us mortals.

But soccer officialdom, with its share of inflated egos, doesn't tolerate unorthodoxy and now Gutendorf is in trouble. I don't know if he cares; he admits his shortcomings but won't be able to change. The most he can do, if compelled, is pack his bags, empty his luxury apartment overlooking Sydney Bay, sell his yacht and Mercedes and return to his comfortable villa in Koblenz.

If that happens, an old Australian pastime will have claimed yet another victim: cutting down tall poppies. At least the Turks turn them into drugs; we just sweep them into the harbour.

And then we can return to the same old escalator and keep running on it again — the wrong way.

Australian Soccer Scene with ANDREW DETTRE

by Derrick Allsop

Soccer in the snow! Nottingham Forest goalkeeper Peter Shilton slides out to thwart a York City attack during an F.A. Cup clash.

CLOSE DOWN CASH SENSE

BRITAIN'S Artic-like weather has stoked up the old debate on whether there should be a mid-season break or even a complete switch to summer football.

The freeze brought chaos to the League and Cup programmes in England and Scotland. The pools panel became a regular Saturday feature.

Shades of 1963, when the game came to a virtual standstill and the complicated season eventually had to be extended.

Since then it has frequently been suggested that British football should follow the example of other countries susceptible to harsh winters and close down for a spell.

The authorities, however, have dug their heels into the snow. They insist the British climate is so unpredictable it would be difficult to pinpoint the ideal period for a break and that the winter game should remain precisely that. They add that the bad winters are rare, anyway.

But now the rumblings of discontent are louder than ever. From UEFA Cup challengers Manchester City to Fourth Division Stockport County came calls for a change in the sesaon to beat the hostile weather.

For the smaller clubs, of course, postponements can cause a serious drain on limited resources. the long hold-up of the Wrexham-Stockport FA Cup-tie hit both clubs.

By the time the tie was played Wrexham estimated they had lost almost £50,000. They had started the season in a sound financial situation but found themselves asking the bank for handouts.

Stockport chairman Freddie Pye said: "The delay in playing the tie affected our home league programme. We could have played League games on days left for the tie and as a result we lost the chance of putting much-needed cash in the till.

"It has just become a farce. The sooner we get round to playing football in decent conditions the better it will be for everyone concerned."

Bernard Halford, secretary of Manchester City, was of much the same opinion. He felt it was time to end the 'nonsense' and introduce a mid-season break.

Many of the matches which did survive were described as 'lotteries' and as such were scarcely fair to the clubs or the public who paid to see genuine contests of skill.

Clubs and spectators weren't appeased by the constant uncertainty surrounding fixtures. The FA's insistence on proceeding with Cup draws on schedule merely added to the confusion and frustration.

Clearly, then, there is a case for a mid-winter break or the adoption of a summer season. My own feeling is that football should be played and watched in clement conditions. It was a pleasure to go off to matches during the 1966 World Cup Finals.

But any proposed change in the season would run into massive obstacles. Summer soccer would not only have to climb over the dead bodies of traditionalists, it would take Britain out of line with most other countries.

It would clash with World Cups and European Championships — not to mention cricket, Wimbledon and the British Open.

A winter break, say during January and February, ought to be more feasible, yet snags arise here, too.

A later finish to the season would overlap the period normally consumed by European club finals, the Home International Championship, international tours and even World Cups and European Championships. It would mean even shorter breaks between seasons.

The present season works (or doesn't!) on such a tight schedule that it would be impossible to complete the programme within the existing dates. That leaves one final solution — smaller divisions.

By clipping the divisions — something I feel is needed anyway — you could 'lose' most of the two-month period, and start and finish the season more or less as now.

The clubs, of course, tend to stop in their tracks at the idea. they see a simple equation: lost fixtures equals lost revenue. They are reluctant to consider that fewer matches might increase quality, competition and interest, and balance the books long term.

So the problem completes its wicked cycle . . . and comes to rest on the doorstep of the harassed clubs.

QUANTITY *AND* QUALITY?

FIFA have squashed one of the fiercest arguments against the increase to 24 countries at the 1982 World Cup finals.

It was widely anticipated that the addition of eight teams would mean a lengthy extension to the tournament in Spain.

But FIFA insist that the extra matches would take up only three or four more days.

Spain has a queue of clubs from every corner of the country willing and able to stage World Cup games.

The main consideration, however, should be the standard of the World Cup finals. Facilities and perfect organisation cannot compensate for meaningless matches.

Spain '82 might well feature some of the World Cup's most splendid stadiums — but also some of the emptiest.

Scottish League Cup Final

Excitement — except for the two 'keepers!

HERE we go again! Rangers and Aberdeen players must be on first-name terms with each other by now. It seems they are in competition every second Saturday and the two clubs collide again at Hampden on March 31 in the shoot-out for the League Cup.

Last season they met on SEVEN occasions and they know that by the end of this term they will have played on at least another five encounters. The see-saw battle between the Glasgow giants and the go-ahead Dons is an intriguing and exciting one.

The last time they met in the League was last season when Aberdeen walloped Rangers 3-1 at Pittodrie . . . and still went out of the trophy! That was the second leg of a quarter final tie after the Ibrox side had run amok on the first occasion, slamming six into the Dons' net for an overwhelming 6-1 victory.

In fact, these two clubs are making a habit of meeting each other in the League Cup and knocking the stuffing out of each other. The previous season they clashed in the semi-final — and Aberdeen won 5-1. That adds up to 17 goals in only three games and that is surely entertainment with a capital 'E'.

It's a goalkeeper's nightmare when these two clubs lock horns in battle. Rangers won one of their League games at Ibrox last season by a solitary goal.

The other three matches in the Premier were bad news for the Rangers rearguard as they were pulverised into submission on all three counts. The Dons won 3-1 and 4-0 at Pittodrie and 3-0 at Ibrox. Not bad going at all!

One of the biggest mysteries of last season was the way Aberdeen, for some strange reason, froze in the Scottish Cup Final against their Glasgow opponents.

"Bobby Russell does a good job for Rangers."

The Dons, known as 'The Red Devils' before the kick off, finished the match with their faces as scarlet as the shirts they wore. A shot from midfielder John McMaster in the opening minutes swept just over the crossbar with Peter McCloy looking on, but from then on in Rangers had the game by the scruff of the neck.

Two headed goals from Alex MacDonald and Derek Johnstone made it look too easy and although Stevie Ritchie hit one for the Dons late in the game there was just no way that the steel-like grip Rangers had on the trophy was going to be prised open.

Hampden rock

So, it's seconds out for another Cup Final duel and grey old Hampden will rock with excitement as both sets of players tear into each other with great gusto. There will be goals, no doubt about that. There must be goals when there are players such as Derek Johnstone and Joe Harper about.

Rangers, under John Greig's guidance and influence, are throwing off their well-worn cloak of rigid structures. Gone are the days when Rangers were known more for their power than their perception. Gone are the days when they relied on brawn instead of brain.

"Look at Bobby Russell," says Greig. "He couldn't tackle a fish supper. I've seen more meat on a butcher's knife!"

Russell is a bright new feature in the Ibrox line-up. Jock Wallace introduced him last year and he has made startling progress. He is a thinker, a player who can drift around the pitch with marvellous vision and range.

I thought he was the main difference between Rangers and Aberdeen in last year's Scottish Cup Final and, unless the Dons are careful, he could give us a repeat performance.

He glided through that Hampden match and picked up the Man of the Match award from the sponsors afterwards, saying: "The boys made it easy for me . . . they are so unselfish."

Russell set up the all-important opening goal just when it looked as though both teams were going to go in at the interval with a barren scoreline. He sent a delicate, cunning ball into the heart of the Aberdeen defence. The waist-high cross surprised everyone except Alex MacDonald, so good with the head, and he darted forward, threw himself full-length and although Bobby Clark managed to get a hand to the ball he couldn't

Rangers v. Aberdeen by Alex Gordon

stop it rolling slowly and agonisingly over the line.

The second goal was a typical effort from Derek Johnstone. A cross from the right wasn't cut out and Derek rose behind centre half Willie Garner to send a powerful header high past the helpless Clark. I wonder just how many goals Derek scores with headers from crosses on the right wing.

That 6-1 trouncing of the Dons in the League Cup match was the most exciting and memorable 90 minutes of last season so far as I was concerned. Rangers could do little wrong that night as they went straight for the jugular vein.

Gordon Smith opened the scoring with a brilliant glancing header and went on to hit a superb hat-trick. Derek Johnstone — almost inevitably — Alex MacDonald and Alex Miller, with a fierce penalty kick, were the other scorers on a night where Rangers danced and pirouetted their way through a mesmerising performance.

On the chin

Bobby Clark must have felt like he had taken one on the chin from Muhammad Ali after that demoralising demonstration of chance-taking. Yet that same 'keeper will face Rangers again in this vital Cup Final with fresh confidence.

"Don't ask me what went wrong that night at Ibrox," he says. "It was a case of nothing going right for us! By the time we got into the game Rangers were 4-0 ahead. In the mood they were there was just no way we could give them four goals of a start and come back and beat them.

"But I would like to point out that we chalked up three successive victories over them after that gme. Then, of course, came the disappointment of the Scottish Cup Final. We'll be out to make certain that we do not go through that again."

Clark has always been one of my favourite 'keepers. He is a colourful character, an entertainer, a personality. And he says: "I think I'm playing better now than when I won the bulk of my international caps.

"That may sound strange, but it is true. I'm happier with my game, more relaxed, if you like. Experience in this position really does count for a lot, believe me."

The likeable Pittodrie character hasn't won anything like the medals a 'keeper of his calibre most certainly deserves, but he is swift to tell you that he still has a lot of time to rectify that situation!

A lot will depend upon how Aberdeen settle down in this game to see whether or not Clark will be picking up another League Cup winner's medal after playing a vital role in the defeat of Celtic in extra-time a couple of seasons ago.

Joe Harper and Colin Jackson, an unsung Ibrox hero, have had some incredible confrontations in the past and honours are just about even. Harper was completely snuffed out of the Scottish Cup Final by 'Stonewall' Jackson and he will be wanting to set the record straight at Hampden.

Harper in this sort of mood is a menace to any rearguard. His young Pittodrie partner Stevie Archibald could also pose a fair amount of problems for Rangers.

Archibald is a terrier of a player, a striker who is always on the look-out to pounce and pick up a scrap, punishing hesitant defences and one-paced defenders.

Midfield battler

Drew Jarvie, too, does a superhuman job for the Dons. He works hard in the middle of the park and probably won't be too far away from Rangers' Alex MacDonald, another midfield battler who is having a grand season.

Jarvie has perfected the art of drifting into scoring positions and getting goals just when you least expect it. Celtic will surely testify to that.

When the Pittodrie men, then managed by Ally MacLeod, won the League Cup he scored the goal that brought the Dons back into the match after Kenny Dalglish had opened the scoring with a penalty-kick after, ironically, Jarvie had hauled him down.

Arthur Graham dragged the ball across the pitch from left to right taking Danny McGrain with him. McGrain must have expected someone to filter into his right-back position, but no one did.

Graham poked the ball in front of Stuart Kennedy, who, in turn, carried it on. Jarvie saw the opening at the far post and ghosted in *a la* Martin Peters and when Kennedy's cross was delivered Celtic 'keeper Peter Latchford and defender Johannes Edvaldsson were caught wondering where Joe Harper was lurking and Jarvie punished their hesitancy with a firm header into the back of the net.

Aberdeen then when on to win the trophy in extra-time with a goal which I thought was more than just a shade offside. Davie Robb, again unmarked at the far post, fired in a Jocky Scott miskick, the ball going into the net off the diving body of Latchford.

If Rangers take their eye off Jarvie they could suffer a similar fate. Actually, both teams are fairly well balanced. They would appear to have the same weaknesses and strengths in the same positions.

Sandy Jardine and Stuart Kennedy are currently fighting it out for the No. 2 shirt for their country in the absence of Danny McGrain. Peter McCloy and Bobby Clark are veterans who have represented their country.

Drew Jarvie and Alex MacDonald are industrious and will snatch vital goals as I have already pointed out. Joe Harper and Stevie Archibald can be penalty box thieves as can Derek Johnstone and Gordon Smith, the man who scored Rangers' winner in last season's League Cup Final two minutes from the end of extra-time against Celtic.

St Mirren goalkeeper Billy Thomson juggles the ball away from Rangers No. 10 Derek Johnstone.

Similar types

Bobby Russell does a good job for Rangers picking the ball up and laying it off. John McMaster does a similar role for the Dons. So, really, there isn't too much between the teams on paper, but, of course, games are played on grass and not paper.

Aberdeen might push someone tight on the under-rated Tommy McLean, who may not be a favourite all the time with the fans, but is still an extremely gifted individual, full of invention and good ideas.

Who will win? Obviously a lot of things will determine that factor. It could be a happy-go-lucky shot, a freak bounce, a moment of indecision, a controversial award by the referee. All of these things must be taken into account.

I took Aberdeen to win the Scottish Cup last season and got it all wrong. I haven't lost faith in them, but I feel Rangers are ticking over quite nicely just now and might just carry that little bit of extra firepower at Hampden.

So, it's Rangers to retain their trophy, but it's going to be one hell of a fight.

EURO HISTORY

Part Two: In which KEIR RADNEDGE continues his statistical review of European international football with a look at the Champions' Cup top scorers.

WORLD SOCCER EXCLUSIVE FEATURE

Di Stefano heads the scoring records

THERE are no prizes for goalscoring in the Champons' Cup.

The only rewards on offer are the brief satisfaction for the player who has put the ball in the net and, for a precious few, the opportunity to grasp a winner's medal (as well as a big win bonus!!).

But interest in the men who score the goals is huge among all Europe's fans.

Despite that, another of my discoveries in my recent inquiries into European club records is that the lists of goalscorers for Europe's premier competition are unreliable.

At least I have been able to confirm one of the European goal legends, that Alfredo Di Stefano finished his career with 49, far ahead of most of the rest of the field. The great Real Madrid centre forward also scored in each of the first five finals and it was his ability which put the stamp of success on the competition.

Yet until I compiled this list I hadn't realised that Eusebio ran him so close. The black Benfica star finished with 46 goals — though even his explosive finishing hardly matches Gerd Müller's record.

Bayern's stocky goal machine is third overall with 37 goals — scored in a mere five seasons in Europe!

The table alongside is taken up to the end of season 1977-78, and the immediate problem I found was deciding where to draw the line. At first I used the base figure of six goals, because that was the highest aggregate total of any player in the first Champions' Cup.

However that would have meant the inclusion of almost twice as many players and there just isn't the space here!

4,292 goals

Just to give a glance at the amount of figures involved, if I record here that up to the end of last season some 800 players had scored 4,292 goals in 683 games over 23 years featuring 219 clubs!

I was particularly struck in the same old pattern which reoccurs throughout the table. It seems that once a club has a reliable goalscorer then it goes through a two, three, or four-year-spell at the top. Once over, the comebacks are few.

Perhaps one of the most remarkable exceptions was Jose Altafini. Born in Brazil, he cost Milan £85,000 after the 1958 World Cup Finals. He then went on to play for them successfully at centre forward in three Champions' Cup contests — so successfully in fact that his season's record of 14 goals, set in 1962-63, still stands.

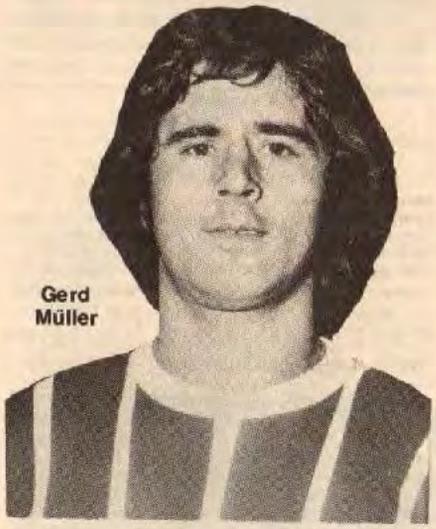
His final Champions' Cup appearances were in 1963-64 and it seemed he was fading into history when he moved on to Napoli. In the early 1970s however he moved to Juventus and gained a new lease of life as a remarkably successful substitute — generally for the much younger Pietro Anastasi.

To the astonishment even of Altafini the transfer brought him two more seasons in Europe, four more goals, and a second appearance in a Champions' final — though this time, 10 years after Milan's 2-1 win over Benfica, Altafini was on the losing side: Juve went down 1-0 to Ajax over Benfica.

Generally, however, the number of top scorers who have played for two or more clubs is surprisingly small when you consider the international transfer demand for class marksmen.

In this list of 48 players, only eight appeared for two clubs in the Champions' Cup and one of the most famous, Johan Cruyff, though totalling 18 goals, scored them all with Ajax, none with Barcelona — though he did guide CFB to the semi-finals in 1975.

Ferenc Puskas is top of the two-club men. He scored one goal for Honved in their brief,



Gerd Müller

condemned appearance in 1956-57 and the rest of his 36 for Real Madrid.

The most successfully balanced dual-club man was probably Josef Adamec. A young reserve to the Czechoslovak team who reached the 1962 World Cup Final, his star was soon on the wane with the army club, Dukla Prague.

Acknowledged as possessing a sharp left foot, but accused as lazy and moody, Adamec was released to Spartak Trnava despite scoring some important European goals for Dukla. With Trnava he repeated the trick, ensuring a career in the Champions' Cup which spanned 13 years from his first goal for Dukla to his last for Trnava.

Another man with a famous left foot was Francisco Gento, and the Real Madrid flier used it to set a minor record of his own. *El Supersonico* scored in 13 separate competitions, a record of consistency which remains all his own. Gento stands fifth overall, with 31 goals, followed — surprisingly — by another man who made his name as a winger, Jose Augusto.

The Benfica man joined the Lisbon Eagles as a centre forward but was converted to the right by wise old Bela Guttmann. So good did he become so quickly that Real Madrid considered trying to buy him as replacment for Reims-returning Raymond Kopa.

Benfica said No and Augusto stayed to shade back into midfield in the mid-sixties.

Good judgement

One player worth a mention is Conny Torstensson. The lanky Swede gave Bayern Munich such a scare in the Champions' Cup in the first round in 1973-74 that the Germans signed him immediately from Atvidaberg. He underlined the sense of their judgment by scoring four goals later in the same year's competition and collecting a winner's medal!

Top of the British scorers is Denis Law. He totalled 14 in three seasons, though the Manchester United hero was in a hospital bed recovering from a knee operation when Matt Busby's men collected the Cup in 1968.

And finally, to mention just one more name, what about Just Fontaine? Having hit a record 13 goals in the 1958 World Cup Finals for France in Sweden he then took Reims to the Champions' final the following season with 10 goals. Two leg breaks finished his career soon after — so he enters our list through his efforts in just one season. What might Fontaine have achieved if only . . . ?

These then are Europe's top goalscorers, the men who made it in the Champions' Cup. With the present trend leaning towards 12-month a year footballers it seems few players nowadays will be able to last the course as Gento, Di Stefano, Eusebio did.

Current contenders to reshape this list? I don't see many. Pirri is still playing for Real Madrid, injuries permitting, but has only a year or two left. Club-mate Santillana and Borussia Moenchengladbach's Allan Simonsen, however, are in with a shout. But who else?

Player	Club	55-6	56-7	57-8	58-9	59-60	60-1	61-2	62-3	63-4	64-5	65-6	66-7	67-8	68-9	69-70	70-1	71-2	72-3	73-4	74-5	75-6	76-7	77-8	Total
DI STEFANO	Real Madrid	5	7	10	6	8	0	7	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	49
EUSEBIO	Benfica	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	4	8	7	—	6	1	4	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	46
G. MÜLLER	Bayern	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	9	6	5	5	—	37
Puskas	Honved/Rl Madrid	—	1	—	2	12	—	7	—	7	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36
Gento	Rl Madrid	1	1	3	1	2	1	2	1	3	5	3	—	5	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31
J. Augusto	Benfica	—	—	—	—	—	7	5	1	—	5	4	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25
Altafini	Milan/Juventus	—	—	—	—	2	—	14	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	24
Van Himst	Andrlcht	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	6	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	20
Amancio	Rl Madrid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	5	—	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	19
Torres	Benfica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	3	—	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19
Cruyff	Ajax*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	6	—	1	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	18
Kostic	Red Star	—	5	9	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18
Aguas	Benfica	—	—	—	—	—	11	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17
Adamec	Dukla/S. Trnava	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	16
Lubanski	Gornik	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	16
Mazzola	Inter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	3	1	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
Pirri	Rl Madrid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	3	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	16
Bene	Ujpest	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	1	3	2	—	—	15
Law	Man. Utd.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Rial	Rl Madrid	5	2	4	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Antoniadis	Pnthnkos	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	13
Viollet	Man. Utd.	—	9	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13
Coluna	Benfica	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	3	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Jair	Inter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Keizer	Ajax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	12
Luis	At. Madrid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	6	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	12
Mraz	Sparta/Dukla	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Torstensson	Atvdbg/Byern	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2/4	1	1	4	—	12
Dunai	Ujpest	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	1	3	2	—	—	11
Grosso	Rl Madrid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Johnstone	Celtic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	4	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	11
Kovacevic	Partizan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Peiro	At. Mdrd/Inter.	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Piepenburg	Vorwärts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Santillana	Rl Madrid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	5	1	—	11
Simonsen	Borussia Mg	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	5	11
Swart	Ajax	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	11
T. Taylor	Man. Utd.	—	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Wallace	Celtic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Charlton	Man. Utd.	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Evaristo	Brclna/Rl. Mdrd	—	—	—	—	4	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Fontaine	Reims	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Heynckes	Brssa Mg	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	6	1	4	10
Kycera	Dukla	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Lennox	Celtic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	10
Metin	Gitsry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
H. Revelli	St-Etienne	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	10
Van Hanegem	Feyenoord	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	10

CHAMPIONS' CUP
Year-by-year top scorers

1955-56: 6 goals — Glovacki (Reims), Milutinovic (Partizan).
1956-57: 9 goals — Viollet (Man. Utd.).
1957-58: 10 goals — Di Stefano (Real Madrid).
1958-59: 10 goals — Fontaine (Reims).
1959-60: 12 goals — Puskas (Real Madrid).
1960-61: 11 goals — Aguas (Benfica).
1961-62: 7 goals — each Di Stefano, Puskas, Tejada (all Real Madrid).
1962-63: 14 goals — Altafini (Milan).
1963-64: 7 goals — each Kovacevic (Partizan), Mazzola (Inter), Puskas (Madrid).
1964-65: 9 goals — Torres (Benfica).
1965-66: 7 goals — Albert (Ferencvaros), Eusebio (Benfica).
1966-67: 6 goals — Piepenburg (Vorwärts), Van Himst (Anderlecht).
1967-68: 6 goals — Eusebio (Benfica).
1968-69: 9 goals — Law (Man. Utd.).
1969-70: 8 goals — Jones (Leeds).
1970-71: 10 goals — Antoniadis (Panathinaikos).
1971-72: 5 goals — Macari (Celtic), Takac (Standard Liege).
1972-73: 12 goals — Müller (Bayern).
1973-74: 9 goals — Müller (Bayern).
1974-75: 6 goals — Müller (Bayern).
1975-76: 5 goals — Lubse (PSV Eindhoven), Müller (Bayern), Robert Martinez and Santillana (both Real Madrid), Schuster (Bayern), Zungul (Hajduk).
1976-77: 5 goals — Cuccinotta (Zurich), Müller (Bayern).
1977-78: 5 goals — Simonsen (Borussia Moenchengladbach).

MULTIPLE SCORING

5 goals in a game — Albert (Ferencvaros), Altafini (Milan), Crawford (Ipswich), Lofqvist (Odense 1913), Ohlsson (IFK Gothenburg), Müller (Bayern).

4 goals in a game — Antoniadis (Panathinaikos), Antoijevic (Red Star), Bouwmeester (Feyenoord), Cossou (Monaco), Di Stefano (Real Madrid — twice), Eusebio (Benfica), Fontaine (Reims), Geels (Feyenoord), Georgescu (Dinamo Buch), Hammerl (Wiener SK), Heynckes (Borussia Mg), Kocsis (Barcelona), Kolev (CDNA), Konietzka (Munich 1860), Kostic (Red Star), Kovacevic (Partizan), Law (Man. Utd.), Milutinovic (Partizan), K. Müller (Grasshoppers), Nunweiler VI (Dinamo Buch), Puskas (Real Madrid — twice), Torres (Benfica), Rene Van der Kerkhof (PSV), Viollet (Man. Utd.).

3 goals in a game — Adamec (Dukla one; Trnava one), Altafini (Milan — three), Amancio (Real Madrid — twice), O. Andersen (Odense 1913), Ball (Everton), Bene (Ujpest), Borreux (Spora Lux), Brungs (Borussia Dortmund), Claessen (Standard), Connelly (Man. Utd.), Csordas (Vasas), Daniels (Sporta Rotterdam), Danova (Milan), Depireux (Standard), Devrindt (Anderlecht), Di Stefano (Real Madrid — three), Dobias (Trnava), Dubaele (Reims), Emmerich (Borussia Dortmund), Eriksson (Djurgarden), Eusebio (Benfica), Evaristo (Barcelona), Farkas (Vasas — three), Fatton (Servette), Galakos (Olympiakos), Gento (Real Madrid), George (Derby), Gilzean (Dundee — twice), Happel (Rapid Vienna), Herd (Man. Utd.), Israel (Feyenoord), Iversen (Rosenborg Trondheim), C. Jones (Tottenham), M. Jones (Leeds), Jordao (Benfica), Jose Augusto (Benfica), Kindvall (Feyenoord), Knoll (Wiener SK), Körner II (Rapid), Kreuz (Feyenoord), Kubala (Barcelona), Kucera (Dukla), Kvasnak (Sparta Prague), Lambert (Brugge — twice), Law (Man. Utd.), Lourenco (Sporting Lisbon), Lubanski (Gornik), Luis (Atletico Madrid), Markarov (Ararat Erevan), Masek (Sparta Prague), Metin (Galatasaray), Mraz (Sparta Prague), Mulder (Anderlecht), Muller (Bayern), Nene (Benfica), Nurembourg (Nice), Ostojic (Red Star), Pal I (Vasas), Palotas (Red Banner), Pedras (Benfica), Piepenburg (Vorwärts), Pirri (Real Madrid), Prati (Milan), Puskas (Real Madrid — three), Radics (Vasas), Rensenbrink (Anderlecht), Rexach (Barcelona), Rial (Real Madrid), Risi (Zurich), Schoenmaker (Feyenoord — twice), Schuster (Bayern), Sivori (Juventus), Stockman (Anderlecht), T. Taylor (Man. Utd.), Theunissen (PSV), Torres (Benfica), Van Hanegem (Feyenoord), Vincent (Reims), Wallace (Celtic), Zungul (Hajduk).

MISCELLANEOUS

Most goals in a tie: In the first round of 1969-70 Feyenoord beat KR Reykjavik 12-2, 4-0 = 16-2 on aggregate.

Note: From the start of the Champions' Cup in 1955-56 if two teams were level on aggregate after the two 90-minute legs of the tie, a play-off was arranged on a neutral ground, with extra time and then the toss of a coin or coloured disc if necessary. From the start of 1967-68 it was decided that if two teams were level on aggregate after the two legs, then away goals should count double. But if the teams were still level, then a play-off should take place. Fixture congestion had now made play-offs so unpopular that in 1969-70 it was decided that teams level after extra time at the end of the second leg should spin a coin to decide who went through. This was amended from the start of the following season (1970-71) to permit the present penalty competition (Decider penalties are *NOT* included in the statistics here). Substitutes — the two from five rule was operated from the start of the 1968-69 season.

Johann Cruyff features near the top of the European Cup scoring charts.

FEBRUARY saw international action beginning again after the enforced winter hibernation, with several European championship ties.

The biggest surprise was the 0-0 draw West Germany had to settle for on the infamous Gzira pitch in Malta. I didn't think this as surprising as result, however, as some observers.

Gzira's hard sand-packed pitch is a notorious leveller and hardly the ideal place for a West Germany a little short on confidence after the events of last year, to make their debut in the championship.

FEBRUARY 7

Wembley — Euro ch'ship group one
England 4 (Keegan 24, Latchford 46, 63, Watson 49)
N. Ireland 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 92,000. **Ref:** U. Ericsson (Sweden).

This match was extensively reported in last month's *World Soccer*. Suffice it here to record the basic facts that England owed their victory to a fine performance from Kevin Keegan, ably supported by Trevor Brooking. England's defence looked a little rocky in the first half and towards the end of the second they might have applied more pressure and added to the score. Pat Jennings was not his normal inspiring self in the Irish goal and might be faulted for Keegan's headed opener after Steve Coppell's cross. Sammy McIlroy was Northern Ireland's only threat. In the first half he claimed a penalty in vain when Ray Clemence jumped all over him, and then he saw a free kick rebound out from the post. However, England secured two important points with a couple of goals inside the first four minutes of the second half. Barnes and Keegan laid on Latchford's headed first, and a Brooking corner set up Watson's powerful header — though Jennings was baulked as he came for the cross. Finally, another Brooking corner, and Keegan provided the flick-on for Latchford to stab the ball in.

England: Clemence — Neal, Watson, Hughes, Mills — Currie, Brooking — Coppell, Latchford, Keegan, Barnes.

N. Ireland: Jennings — Rice, C. Nicholls, J. Nicholl, Nelson — McIlroy, McCreery, O'Neill — Cochrane (McGrath 81), Armstrong, Caskey (Spence 50).

FEBRUARY 8

Stanke Dimitrov
Bulgaria 1 (Vassiliev 67)
Rumania 1 (Georgescu 32)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 6,000.

FEBRUARY 11

Baghdad
Iraq 1 (Saed 41)
E. Germany 1 (Streich 89)
HT: 1-0.

FEBRUARY 16

Tel-Aviv
Israel 4 (Shum 27, Peretz 34, 41, 65)
Greece 1 (Mavros 59)
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 7,000.

FEBRUARY 18

Tunis
Tunisia 0
Poland 2 (Ogaza 73, 85)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 18,000.

Poland: Mynarcsyk — Dziuba, Janas, Zmuda, Szymanowski — Cmikiewicz, Boniek, Faber — Lato, Ogaza, Sybis.

FEBRUARY 23

Baghdad
Iraq 1 (Hussein Saed 82 pen.)
Sweden 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 35,000.

A disappointing start for the touring Swedes as the Iraqis stepped up their preparation for the Gulf Championship. An unofficial international as far as the Swedes are concerned.

FEBRUARY 24

Milan
Italy 3 (Bettega 8, Rossi 18 pen, Tardelli 43)
Holland 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 63,000. **Ref:** Rainea (Rum.)

There had been some opposition in Holland to this game, and at one stage the KNVB had asked the Italians if it could be converted into a trial match for prospects. The Italians refused, wanting to take some sort of pyrrhic revenge for the 2-1 defeat in Argentina, but in the event the Dutch had to send out almost a B team. Barcelona wouldn't release Johan Neeskens, Anderlecht wouldn't release Rensenbrink, Geels or Dusbaba and to add to their troubles Holland were without skipper Rudi Krol. His injury robbed him of the chance of equalling the Dutch record caps total of Puck Van Heel.

The Dutch league programme had been wrecked by snow and so it was no surprise that their players looked ill at ease against the Italians, who had suffered no such problems.

The Italians dominated from the start and only eight minutes were needed before Roberto Bettega rattled home a shot from close range. Bettega has had a disappointing season, but he provided more than a few signs of a second wind, and it was after his through pass that Erny Brandts fouled Marco Tardelli, allowing Paolo Rossi to convert the penalty. Only a Rene Van der Kerkhof free kick gave Dino Zoff any problems at the other end before Tardelli scored Italy's third, after a cross from Juventus team-mate Antonio Cabrini.

Scrambling

Both teams made substitutions in the second half, without altering the state of the game. One long shot from Jan Peters had Zoff's replacement, Paolo Conti, scrambling, but Piet Wildschut wasted the best Dutch chance. Two minutes before the end he slipped into the penalty box unnoticed, only to clip his shot high and wide with only Conti to beat.

Italian boss, Enzo Bearzot, was happy enough, while admitting that "this was not the real Holland". Some of the Dutch players complained that the Italian defence had given them a rough ride, and manager Jan Zwartkruis thought the penalty a gift from referee Rainea.

He added: "Our defeat was half because of Italy's good form, and half because of our lack of match fitness. My players looked like wooden puppets in the first half because they are so short on condition."

There was a minute's silence before the game in memory of Nereo Rocco, former coach to Milan and Torino, who died earlier in the week.

Italy: Zoff (Conti 46) — Gentile, Collovati, Scirea, Cabrini (Maldera 70) — Oriali, Tardelli (Zaccarelli 74), Antognoni — Causio, Rossi, Bettega.

Holland: Schrijvers — Poortvliet, Brandts (Stevens 46), Van Kraay, Wildschut — Jansens, Peters, W. Van der Kerkhof (Metgod 70) — Rep, Kist, R. Van der Kerkhof.

Jubilation for England as Dave Watson (right) celebrates scoring England's third goal against Northern Ireland — though the Irish consternation that Mick Mills (foreground) had impeded goalkeeper Pat Jennings is mirrored in their expressions.

Not everyone was content to stay in Europe. Czechoslovakia sent a team to the annual Mar del Plata tournament in Argentina, while Sweden went out to the Middle East — though their squad was weakened by the absence of the foreign-based professionals and the Malmo players, whose immediate target was the Champions' Cup quarter-finals.

Russia sent two squads away. The Olympic side went to the United States and Mexico, while the full national team spent a couple of weeks in Italy.

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW

FEBRUARY 25
Paris — Euro ch'ship group five
France 3 (Petit 38, Emon 62, Larios 80)
Luxembourg 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Bridge (Wales)

France went further ahead at the top of the group thanks to this victory, but were hardly inspiring, and the fans jeered them off at half-time. Without star forwards Six, Lacombe and Platini it took 38 minutes to claim the first goal. Albert Emon hit the bar in the second minute and Jeannot Moes made a good save from Jean Petit in the fourth. But after that the Luxembourg defence managed to cope until Petit glanced a corner in for No. 1.

In the 60th minute Herbert Meunier was narrowly wide for Luxembourg, and that shock spurred the French into making sure. Emon hit in a 30-yard drive and after skipper Marius Tresor headed against the bar, substitute Jean-Francois Larios whipped in the third.

Luxembourg: Moes — Meunier, Margue, Raths, Rohmann, Wies (Neumann 46), Philipp, Dresch, Michaux, Wagner, Swally (Bossi 72).

France: Dropsy — Battiston, Specht, Tresor, Bossis — Petit, Piasecki (Larios 60), Michel — Rocheteau, Berdoll (Pecout 63), Emon.

Valletta — Euro ch'ship group seven
Malta 0
West Germany 0
Att: 13,000. **Ref:** Voytech (Cz)

A gale-force wind and a sodden pitch made matters tough for the West Germans who needed plenty of goals. A public transport strike hadn't affected the enthusiasm of the crowd, and they thoroughly enjoyed seeing the visitors so discomfited.

Man of the match was Maltese goalkeeper, Sciberras, but Sepp Maier — playing his 92nd international — was far from unemployed.

Two refusals

In the 18th minute Gonzi put the ball past Maier, but was refused a goal because of offside. Two minutes later the Maltese claimed a goal again — this time when Maier scrambled away a free kick as it appeared to be crossing the line. After that it was the turn of Sciberras. He made one fine first-half save from Hansi Muller and a couple of brave second-half stops from Klaus Fischer.

In the 88th minute even Sciberras was beaten by a dipping shot from Rainer Bonhof, but Leli Farrugia got back in time to head out from under the bar.

Kevin Keegan beats Pat Jennings to Steve Coppell's cross to put England ahead against Northern Ireland.

While watching Wales manager, Mike Smith, was well satisfied with the trip, West Germany's Jupp Derwall was a disappointed man.

"We never came to terms with the pitch or the wind," he said, "but asking our men to play on that sort of pitch would be like asking Picasso to paint on a wall."

Malta: Sciberras — Buckingham, Buttigieg, Holland, Ed. Farrugia — Em. Farrugia, R. Xuereb, J. Xuereb — Magro, Spiteri-Gonzi (Seychell 82), G. Xuereb.

West Germany: Maier — Kaltz, Zewe (Kelsch 75), Förster, Dietz — H. Müller, Cullman, Bonhof — Rummenigge (Allofs 75), Fischer, Abramczik.

Bahrain
Bahrain 0
Sweden 3 (Berggren 19, Gronhagen 58, 78)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 3,000

MILITARY: Jan 31 (Naples): Italy 1, W. Germany 0. **Feb 12** (Beaune): France 3, Britain 0.

UNDER-21: Feb 6 (Swansea): Wales 1, England 2.

OTHER MATCHES: Jan 28 (Mar del Plata): Racing BA 3 (Prycodko 34, 70, Rodriquez 59), Czechoslovakia 3 (Kroupa 53, Masny 71 pen, Nehoda 82). **Jan 31** (Mar): Inter P. Alegre 4, Czechoslovakia B 0. **Feb 1** (Mar): Inter P. Alegre 0, Czechoslovakia 1 (Kroupa 89). **Feb 4** (Luxembourg): Luxembourg 2 (Michaux 85, Margue 89), Metz 2 (Kasperczak 29, Remy 62). — (Seattle): U.S. 1, Russia Olympic XI 3. **Feb 6** (Mendoza): Rivadavia 0, Czechoslovakia 6 (Stambachr 20, Nehoda 48, Panenka 67, 83, 90, Jarusek 80). **Feb 7** (Monterrey): Mexico 1 (Hugo Sanchez 54), Russia Olympic XI 0. **Feb 8** (Mar): River Plate 4, Czechoslovakia 1. **Feb 9** (Tampico): Mexico (Abrio 34), Russia Olympic XI 1 (Grigoriev 47). **Feb 10** (Mar): Boca Juniors 2 (Mastrangelo 2), Czechoslovakia 3 (Nehoda, Panenka, Kroupa). **Feb 12** (Prato): Prato 0, Russia 3 (Khidiatulin 17, Blokhin 32, Gutsayev 51). **Feb 13** (Brasilia): Desportes Bandeirante 2, Czechoslovakia 2 (Slany, Pelc). Czech. 6-5 on pens. **Feb 14** (San Francisco): U.S. 1 (Liveric 81), Russia Olympic XI 4 (Andreyev 6, Ustimchik 13, Klimentiev 25, 74). **Feb 15** (Sofia): Bulgaria Olympic XI 2, Rumania 1. — (Luxembourg): Luxembourg 0, Eintracht Trier 2. — (Genoa): Genoa 0, Russia 2 (Khidiatulin, Shengelia). **Feb 16** (Tripoli): Libya Olympic XI 0, Poland Olympic XI 1. **Feb 20** (Stuttgart): VfB Stuttgart 3 (Elmer 20, Hattenberger 23, Ohlicher 85), W. Germany 1 (Kaltz 47 pen). **Feb 22** (Cesena): Italy U-21 0, Russia 1 (Blokhin 6). — (Nice): Nice 1, Switzerland 1 (Pfister). **Feb 23** (Bologna): Italy B 1 (Altobelli 73), Russia 3 (Blokhin 18, Machovikov 27, Gutsayev 75). **Feb 24** (Budapest) Hungary Olympic XI 2 (Peacy og 50, Rab 85), Eintracht Frankfurt 0.

More reports, scorers and line-ups from the International scene next month

EURO - RESULTS

compiled by Keir Radnedge

Club matches

TOUGH for everyone — that was the judgment before the European club quarter-finals which was amply borne out by the first leg matches.

By the time this edition of *World Soccer* appears, the results of the second legs will be known. But on the basis of the first games it's hard to believe anyone will be able to claim a runaway win.

Only in two of the 12 first-leg games did a team obtain anything more than a one-goal lead — and both of those were in the Champions' Cup where, peculiarly, Nottingham Forest and FK Austria each had to come back in front of their own fans from being a goal down to beat, respectively, Grasshoppers 4-1 and Dynamo Dresden 3-1.

There were two 0-0 draws, both in the Cup-winners' Cup. The Fortuna-Servette game was of very poor quality. At least Internazionale's draw with Belgian surprises Beveren did produce the excitement of a fine performance from goalkeeper Jean-Marie Pfaff.

No hat-tricks to report. But Walter Schachner (FK Austria), Joachim Streich (Magdeburg), Eric Gates (Ipswich) and Ronnie Worm (MSV Duisburg) each scored twice.

The best crowd by far was the 95,000 who saw Red Star take on West Bromwich in Belgrade in the UEFA Cup. The poorest was the 9,500 in Düsseldorf.

CHAMPIONS' CUP
Quarter-finals, first legs
(March 7, unless stated)

1st FC Köln 1 (D. Müller 58)
Glasgow Rangers 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 50,000. **Ref:** Fredriksson (Swe).
Played: March 6.

Köln had 450 stewards and 500 policemen on duty to cope with the feared invasion of the Scots' fans, but with Rangers losing only 1-0 there was little trouble and a police spokesman described the Scots as "drunk but happy".

Manager John Greig was happy too. "When you come to West Germany in this competition and lose by only one goal it's a real achievement, remembering our injury problems."

Rangers were without Derek Johnstone and Tom Forsyth. Tommy McLean and Alex MacDonald all played despite not being fully fit. That weakened team could have been overrun early on. McCloy had to make good saves from Littbarski and Cullmann, and then in the 19th minute attempts by Cullmann and Neumann were blocked on the goal-line.

McCloy stopped another shot from Littbarski with his leg and it was 39 minutes before German goalkeeper Schumacher was worried, and then only by a Jackson header which arched over the bar.

Schuster saw a shot beat McCloy just after the interval but curve just wide, before the German pressure paid off in the 58th minute. Heinz Flohe provided the cross and after four Rangers defenders and three Köln forwards had jabbed at the ball it was Dieter Müller who finally put it in.

Four minutes later Müller was just wide and then had a "goal" disallowed for a foul on the goalkeeper.

Köln had left out Japanese left-winger Jasuhiko Okudera and Roger Van Gool was injured, and they certainly paid a price in their poor finishing. As Hermann Neuberger, president of the DFB, said: "They had enough chances to have won three matches."

The only booking of the game was of Jim Denny, a surprise choice for Rangers, to help out in defence. His offence was to foul Neumann in the 50th minute.

FK Austria 3 (Schachner 20, 89, Zach 87)
Dynamo Dresden 1 (Weber 9)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 38,500. **Ref:** Partridge (Eng).

Austria dominated the match but left it very late getting the goals to give them any hope of survival in East Germany. Dresden went ahead thanks to a 25-yarder from full-back Weber after a goalkeeping blunder, but were pulled back thanks to a header from World Cup man Walter Schachner.

In the second half, brilliantly guided in midfield by Prohaska, the Austrians kept up relentless pressure and the tiring Dresden defence finally wilted in the last three minutes. First striker Walter Zach — a second half substitute for Daxbacher — put Austria ahead, then Schachner grabbed a third.

Nottingham Forest 4 (Birtles 31, Robertson 46 pen, Gemmill 87, Lloyd 89)
Grasshoppers 1 (Sulser 10)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 31,949. **Ref:** Raus (Yug).

Forest manager Brian Clough had warned his team beforehand that their goal-shy league performances wouldn't be good enough to take them through in Europe and his caution seemed justified when, despite Forest's early pressure, the Swiss took a surprise lead.

Meyer gave Claudio Sulser the opening to swerve past Larry Lloyd and flick his shot beyond Peter Shilton. It was Sulser's tenth of the Champions' Cup this season.

Forest went racing back into attack, leaving their defence wildly exposed and nearly equalised when a John McGovern shot was scrambled off the goal-line by sweeper Johnny Hey. Frank Clark and Dave Needham stormed forward to increase the pressure and in the 31st minute Forest equalised. The pass came from Tony Woodcock — back for ineligible £1 million Trevor Francis — and Garry Birtles struck it in.

Hey made another goal-line stop from Martin O'Neill before the shot but his handling offence immediately afterwards to a Birtles shot only provided John Robertson with the chance to put Forest ahead from the penalty spot.

Goalkeeper Roger Berbig made some fine saves and a couple of lucky ones, but the most important stop came from Shilton, 15 minutes from time, as he deflected a shot on the breakaway from Sulser.

"That was the turning point," said Clough later. How right he was. As Forest went back upfield to force the last of their 28 corners, first Gemmill shot in after Birtles's header was blocked, then Lloyd headed in No. 4.

Grasshoppers' outgoing manager Helmut Johannsen said, "Forest are built to last 90 minutes, we are not. With 2-1 I was happy, but to get four goals back in the second leg is asking too much."

Wisla Krakow 2 (Nawalka 27, Kmiecik 85)
FF Malmö 1 (Tommy Hansen 13)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Tokat (Turkey).

Wisla went into the game without brilliant young striker Andrzej Iwan, who had been suspended for a year after a brawl in a restaurant. But despite the Swedes' early goal they hit back for a narrow win with the first two goals to beat Malmö goalkeeper Jan Möller in the Champions' Cup so far.

CUP-WINNERS' CUP
Quarter-finals, first legs
(Played March 7)

Fortuna Düsseldorf 0
Servette 0
Att: 9,500. **Ref:** Jarguz (Pol).

The poor quality of the game was underlined seven minutes from time when Zimmermann of Fortuna blasted a penalty over the bar. It was only Fortuna's third clear chance of the match against a Swiss defence in which Engel and Guyot were outstanding.

Goal number two for FK Austria against Dynamo Dresden — scored by substitute Franz Zach.

And goal number three for the Austrians — with Schachner sliding the ball past goalkeeper Boden.

FOREST AND FK BUILD LEADS

Outnumbered Tony woodwock of Nottingham Forest in a duel with Grasshoppers Wherlie, Baver and Montando.

Internazionale 0
Beveren 0
Att: 54,000. **Ref:** Linemayr (Aus)

Inter went into the game affected by injuries and suspensions and found the fine form of Belgian footballer of the year Jean-Marie Pfaff too much for them. The Beveren goalkeeper defied the Italians to give his domestic league-leaders a surprise chance of a place in the semi-finals.

FC Magdeburg 2 (Streich 4 and 30)
Banik Ostrava 1 (Antalik 51)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Doudine (Bul).

The East Germans of Magdeburg took a two-goal lead thanks to the shaky performance of veteran Czech goalkeeper Schmucker, brought out of semi-retirement for this game. But after Banik substituted him in the 34th minute they appeared to grow in confidence. Antalik scored after a rebound and in the end they were unlucky not to draw.

Ipswich 2 (Gates 52 and 65)
Barcelona 1 (Esteban 53)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 28,000. **Ref:** Palotai (Hungary).

It started to look bad for Ipswich when a stomach disorder put out Clive Woods shortly before the kick-off. They were already missing Paul Mariner because of suspension, and their young replacement strike force of Eric Gates and Alan Brazil were no match early on for the ruthless Spanish defenders. Once Gates was brought down in the box by Argentinian right-back Zuviria, but referee Karoly Palotai waved play on.

Paul Cooper in the Ipswich goal wasn't called into action until the half-hour, while his oppositie number, Pedro Artola, had to make a fine stop from Geddis in the 39th minute.

The breakthrough came in the 52nd minute, thanks to Gates, who had walked out on Ipswich earlier in the season because he could not get into the first team. He was lucky to be awarded the goal, however, since Artola was clearly bumped off Alan Brazil's cross by Geddis.

Barcelona hit back inside a minute. A long run by Austrian World Cup man Krankle and a stabbing cross gave Esteban the equaliser, before Gates struck again. This time his shot after a Burley-Mills move caught Artola unsighted and nicked in off the post.

Juan Carlos Heredia forced Cooper to a fine stop just before the end and after the final whistle Ipswich manager Bobby Robson was scathing about Zuviria, condemning him for his brutal fouls and for spitting on Gates.

"He was a disgrace to the game," said Robson, "if one of my men played like that I would have had him off."

UEFA CUP
Quarter-finals, first legs
(Played March 7)

Hertha W. Berlin 1 (Nüssing 51)
Dukla Prague 1 (Pelc 44)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 27,500. **Ref:** Thime (Norway).

Hertha, threatened by relegation on the one hand and financial disaster on the other, were little match for the Czechs in the first half, but pulled level during a second half revival after Nüssing put away a cross from World Cup man Erich Beer.

Honved 2 (Varga 36, Weimper 49 pen)
MSV Duisburg 3 (Worm 23, 54, Seliger 84)
HT: 1-1. **Att.** 17,500. **Ref:** Konrath (Fr).

Another disaster for Honved, shortly after being toppled from the head of the Hungarian league. Duisburg were always the more threatening, better in their approach work and sharper near goal and with two-goal Ronnie Worm in lively form they deserved to win, which briefly took their minds off the domestic battle to escape relegation in West Germany.

Manchester City 1 (Channon 25)
Borussia Moenchengladbach 1 (Lienen 66)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 39,005. **Ref:** Ponnet (Bel).

Manchester City manager Tony Book and assistant Malcolm Allison surprised even Borussia by naming untried reserve centre-half Nick Reid, an 18-year-old, to fill the gap left by suspended Gary Owen and mark Danish star Allan Simonsen.

Borussia, often better away than at home in Europe, were first to threaten, with Bruns hitting a free-kick which tested Joe Corrigan. Bruns again forced Corrigan to dive into action.

However, the first goal fell to City after hard-working Asa Hartford saw a shot cannon off team-mate Peter Barnes. Transfer-listed Channon shot past Kneib from a narrow angle on the left.

In the second half City pressed forward again, with ex-Ipswich man Colin Viljoen playing one of his best games for the club, but in the 66th minute Simonsen for once eluded Reid and slipped in the pass for Ewald Lienen to equalise.

In the closing stages Hartford had one shot blocked by Kneib and then City had a penalty appeal turned down after Channon was tripped.

Four players were booked — Bruns and Nielsen of Borussia and Barnes and Power of City.

Manager Book said he felt City had nothing to fear in the return, while Borussia boss Udo Lattek, who had complained beforehand about the heavy pitch, while pleased, was not committing the sin of overconfidence.

Red Star Belgrade 1 (Savic 86)
West Bromwich Albion 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 95,000. **Ref:** Christov (Cz).

The match was a disappointing one for the huge crowd in the Red Star stadium. In the 21st minute they claimed a penalty for hands against Tony Brown, but referee Christov waved play on. Muslin in the 13th minute and Milosavljevic in the 16th also had early chances but shot wide. The only threat at the other end in the first half was from Tony Brown. Aleksander Stojanovic saved one shot well, and another flew wide.

While Red Star came close through Blagojevic in the 38th minute — Tony Godden made a fine save — they were by now handicapped by the enforced substitution of skipper Vladimir Petrovic.

His absence was clearly felt in the second half when the Yugoslavs, though inventive as ever, lacked the incision necessary to provide any serious threat to Albion. The English club thought they had a draw in their pocket when Dusan Savic was upended on the edge of the penalty box with four minutes to go. Savic took the free-kick himself, running up at an angle and curling powerful left-footer over the top of the wall and past the flying Godden's left hand.

Albion manager Ron Atkinson said: "I'm pleased with the way we played but disappointed with the result," while Red Star's Branko Stankovic thought "we will have to play more aggressively in England if we are to go through".

LEAGUE TABLES

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zürich	17	9	6	2	35	16	24
Servette	17	9	5	3	43	19	23
St. Gallen	17	11	1	5	35	27	23
Young Boys	17	9	4	4	28	25	22
Basel	17	8	4	5	30	25	20
Neuch. Xamax	17	7	5	5	34	25	19
Grasshoppers	17	6	7	4	24	20	19
Chênois	17	6	5	6	22	20	17
Lausanne	17	4	3	10	24	34	11
Nordstern	17	2	7	8	16	30	11
Chiasso	17	3	3	11	18	36	9
Sion	17	1	4	12	12	44	6

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	20	14	4	2	34	12	32
Perugia	20	8	12	0	22	10	28
Torinio	20	9	9	2	29	14	27
Inter	20	7	12	1	28	14	26
Juventus	20	8	9	3	25	14	25
Napoli	20	4	12	4	14	15	20
Catanzaro	20	5	10	5	16	19	20
Lazio	20	6	8	6	23	27	20
Vicenza	20	5	9	6	25	30	19
Fiorentina	20	5	8	7	17	21	18
Avellino	20	4	9	7	13	16	17
Ascoli	20	5	7	8	18	22	17
Roma	20	6	5	9	13	20	17
Atalanta	20	2	10	8	11	22	14
Bologna	20	1	10	9	15	24	12
Verona	20	1	6	13	10	33	8

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kaiserslautern	21	12	7	2	43	25	31
VfB Stuttgart	21	12	5	4	40	20	29
Hamburg SV	20	11	4	5	41	20	26
Eintracht Frankfurt	20	11	3	6	32	26	25
Bayern	20	9	4	7	40	28	22
Cologne	20	7	7	6	28	24	21
Fort. Düsseldorf	19	7	5	7	37	33	19
VfL Bochum	20	5	9	6	33	33	19
Hertha Berlin	20	6	7	7	26	27	19
Bor. M'gladbach	18	7	4	7	28	22	18
Schalke 04	19	6	6	7	36	32	18
Arm. Bielefeld	18	6	5	7	21	26	17
Borussia Dortmund	19	6	5	8	33	45	17
Eintr. Braunschweig	19	5	6	8	26	37	16
Werder Bremen	17	5	5	7	24	30	15
MSV Duisburg	17	5	3	9	22	37	13
Darmstadt 98	21	3	6	12	24	43	12
Nürnberg	19	5	1	13	16	42	11

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beveren-Waas	21	14	5	2	41	14	33
Anderlecht	21	13	1	7	50	26	27
Lokeren	21	9	8	4	28	20	26
Bruges	21	8	10	3	29	21	26
Standard	21	9	7	5	26	18	25
RWD Molenbeek	21	9	6	6	30	23	24
Antwerp	21	7	10	4	24	19	24
Waterschei	21	7	9	5	23	19	23
SC Charleroi	21	8	4	9	23	28	20
Beerschot	21	7	6	8	26	25	20
Lierse	21	8	3	10	23	27	19
Beringen	21	6	7	8	24	25	19
Winterslag	21	5	9	7	27	27	19
Berchem	21	3	10	8	13	26	16
Waregem	21	3	10	8	15	29	16
Liege	21	4	6	11	22	34	14
La Louvière	21	4	6	11	28	47	14
Kortrijk	21	2	9	10	13	35	13

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Porto	21	13	7	1	41	15	33
Benfica	20	15	1	4	43	12	31
Sporting	21	12	6	3	33	16	30
Braga	21	10	3	8	32	28	23
Varzim	21	8	7	6	23	20	23
Guimaraes	20	9	4	7	29	23	22
Belenenses	20	7	7	6	37	27	21
Boavista	20	8	3	9	21	24	19
Setubal	21	7	5	9	22	29	19
Estoril	21	5	8	8	17	30	18
Famalicao	20	6	5	9	14	21	17
Beira-Mar	21	8	1	12	31	39	17
Barreirense	20	6	4	10	15	25	16
Academico Coimbra	20	4	5	11	13	22	13
Maritimo Funchal	20	4	5	11	16	28	13
Viseu	19	5	1	13	10	38	11

SCOTLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
St Mirren	22	10	5	7	27	21	25
Aberdeen	23	7	10	6	35	24	24
Dundee Utd	21	8	8	5	27	20	24
Rangers	21	8	8	5	27	21	24
Partick Thistle	21	8	7	6	22	20	23
Morton	22	7	8	7	27	31	22
Celtic	19	8	5	6	27	21	21
Hearts	21	6	5	10	28	41	17
Hibernian	22	5	11	6	25	26	21
Motherwell	22	4	5	13	21	41	13

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria/WAC	20	14	1	5	47	24	29
Rapid	20	9	6	5	32	22	24
VOeEST Linz	19	9	4	6	22	20	22
Austria Salzburg	20	9	4	7	19	29	22
Wiener SK/Post	20	6	8	6	36	30	20
Admira/Wacker	20	7	5	8	25	21	19
Vienna	20	6	6	8	31	39	18
Sturm Graz	20	6	6	8	21	29	18
SSW Innsbruck	19	4	5	10	23	28	13
Grazer AK	20	3	7	10	19	33	13

EAST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dynamo Berlin	16	14	2	0	42	10	30
Dynamo Dresden	16	9	6	1	35	11	24
Carl Zeiss Jena	16	9	2	5	26	13	20
Lok. Leipzig	16	8	4	4	30	26	20
Magdeburg	16	8	3	5	33	19	19
Chemie Halle	16	6	5	5	23	21	17
Rot-Weiss Erfurt	16	6	4	6	19	22	16
Stahl Riesa	16	6	3	7	25	27	15
Union Berlin	16	4	4	8	15	27	12
Sachsenring Zwickau	16	4	3	9	15	34	12
Karl-Marx-Stadt	16	4	3	9	17	29	11
Hansa Rostock	16	3	4	9	20	30	10
Wismut Aue	16	4	2	10	21	37	10
Chemie Böhlen	16	2	4	10	16	32	8

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	26	19	4	3	58	10	42
Everton	28	14	10	4	39	24	38
West Bromwich	25	15	6	4	52	25	36
Arsenal	28	14	8	6	45	25	36
Leeds	29	13	10	6	53	35	36
Nottingham Forest	24	10	12	2	28	16	32
Manchester United	27	12	7	8	40	43	31
Southampton	28	10	9	9	34	32	29
Tottenham	28	10	9	9	31	43	29
Bristol City	30	10	8	12	35	37	28
Aston Villa	24	8	11	5	29	21	27
Ipswich	28	11	5	12	36	35	27
Coventry	27	10	7	10	34	46	27
Manchester City	28	8	10	10	40	36	26
Norwich	27	5	16	6	38	43	26
Derby	27	8	6	13	29	47	22
Middlesbrough	26	7	6	13	35	37	20
Bolton	25	7	6	12	32	44	20
Wolverhampton	27	8	3	16	26	49	19
Queen's Park Rang	28	4	10	14	25	42	18
Chelsea	27	4	7	16	29	56	15
Birmingham	27	3	4	20	22	44	10

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Strasbourg	28	16	10	2	51	23	42
Nantes	28	16	6	6	61	28	38
St Etienne	28	16	6	6	58	28	38
Monaco	28	16	5	7	58	32	37
Bordeaux	27	11	12	4	37	23	34
Lyon	27	11	7	9	42	39	29
Metz	27	12	5	10	40	41	29
Sochaux	26	10	8	8	45	33	28
Lille	28	8	12	8	52	52	28
Nimes	28	10	7	11	42	40	27
Bastia	27	9	7	11	39	46	25
Marseille	28	7	11	10	35	42	25
Laval	28	7	11	10	43	54	25
Paris St Germain	28	8	8	12	40	50	24
Nancy	25	8	7	10	47	41	23
Nice	28	8	7	13	44	59	23
Angers	27	7	8	12	28	50	22
Paris	28	6	7	15	31	59	19
Valenciennes	26	6	5	15	23	43	17
Reims	28	2	11	15	17	50	15

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Roda JC Kerkrade	18	11	6	1	34	12	28
Ajax Amsterdam	17	12	2	3	46	16	26
PSV Eindhoven	16	10	3	3	31	11	23
Feyenoord R'dam	17	8	7	2	25	9	23
AZ '67 Alkmaar	17	9	2	6	54	30	20
Twente Enschede	18	5	9	4	25	18	19
Sparta Rotterdam	18	8	3	7	23	23	19
Go Ahead Deventer	17	6	6	5	22	20	18
MVV Maastricht	17	6	6	5	15	20	18
Utrecht	18	6	5	7	29	31	17
Vitesse Arnhem	17	4	6	7	22	34	14
NAC Breda	18	3	8	7	19	33	14
Haarlem	17	4	6	7	16	33	14
PEC Zwolle	17	2	9	6	13	23	13
Den Haag	17	3	7	7	16	28	13
NEC Nijmegen	17	2	8	7	14	26	12
Volendam	17	3	4	10	21	34	10
VVV Venlo	17	2	5	10	11	35	9

LAURIE CUNNINGHAM W.B.A.

World SOCCER

RIVER PLATE

Standing, left to right: Passarrella, Sappositis, Mesto, Pavoni, H. Lopez, Fillol. Front: Gonzalez, J. J. Lopez, Luque, Alonso, Ortiz.

World SOCCER